



Stemming the Tide of Elder Abuse: How MOW Programs Can Help

Susan S. Russell, M.A. Director of Community Services Central VT Council on Aging 1-802-476-2669 srussell@cvcoa.org

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Learning Objectives

- Describe the current perceptions and actual prevalence of elder abuse.
- Identify the major forms that elder abuse takes; its impact on elder victims and the reason why elder abuse often goes unreported.
- Increase understanding of systems that respond to elder abuse victims.
- Train the Trainer-For MOW Professsionals
 All materials found in your packet

8/15/2012

Ageism

- Prejudice
- Stereotyping:
 - Death & dying
 - Incompetent & senile
- Non-productive / Worthless
- Results = isolation & low prioritization of their needs and concerns

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-△ Myths & Facts



- Age 65 is *not* an accurate point to identify old age.
- Chronological age is not a predictor of capability.
- Aging and disease are *not* one and the same.
- Age is *not* an appropriate way to identify lifestyles.

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What is Elder Abuse

- Acts or failures to act by persons responsible for the health and safety of elders
- >Results in harm
- >Targets an elder / frail / vulnerable adult
- > Conduct may or may not be criminal
- >Criminal does not include self-neglect

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Statistics

- During 2010, 92,865 persons over the age of 65 were victims of violent crime.
- The annual financial loss by victims of elder abuse is estimated to be at least \$2.9 billon, a 12% increase from the \$2.6 billion estimate in 2008.
- Older Women (67%) are far more likely then men to suffer from abuse



Why Seniors Are at Risk

- Shared living arrangement
- Social isolation of victim
- Dementia of victim
- Abuser dependency on the elder
- Mental illness of abuser
- Alcohol abuse by abuser
- Gender of victim (female)

Elder Abuse Can Happen To Anyone It can happen to anyone.

- - Mickey Rooney March 2011
- Often more than one form of abuse is present.
- Victims of financial exploitation are at highest risk for other co-occurring forms of abuse.

Crimes Affects Each of Our Lives

How do you protect yourself against crime?

Who Abuses Elders

- Caregivers (90%)
- Adult children



- Other family members
- Grandchildren;
- Spouses/partners of elders.
- Strangers accounted for 3%

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Where Does Abuse Take Place

Elder abuse tends to take place where the senior lives: most often in the home. Institutional settings especially long-term care facilities can also be sources of elder abuse.





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Forms of Elder Abuse

- Financial Exploitation: obtaining control over the elder's funds, property, or assets using threats, trickery or coercion.
 - Missing funds for personal gains rather than for the benefit of the elder



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Forms of Elder Abuse

- Physical: use of physical force that may result in bodily injury, physical pain, or impairment
- Sexual: non-consensual sexual contact/acts of any kind

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Forms of Elder Abuse

- Emotional/Psychological: infliction of anguish, pain, or distress through verbal/ nonverbal acts.
- Abandonment: desertion of an elder by a person who has physical custody or has assumed responsibility for providing care.

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Animals and Elder Abuse

- Pets are often the only source of physical affection in an elder's life.
- Rural areas livestock animals are pets too.
- Animals are often used as a tool for power and control.
- Caregivers will often abuse the animal
 - Force the animal to stay outside
- Give the animal away
 Coerced into giving up the house or bank account

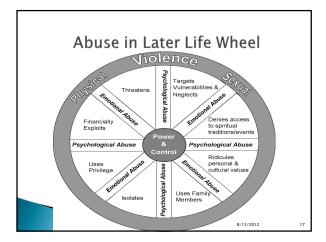


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Forms of Elder Abuse

- Neglect: refusal or failure to fulfill any part of a person's obligations or duties to an elder
- Self-Neglect
- Domestic Violence in Later Life
 - The Power and Control Wheel

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Some Barriers to Leaving

- Personal and/or cultural values
- "It's not Domestic Violence"
- Increased isolation
- May not have the physical/financial ability to make significant life changes
- Pressure from family members
 - Abandonment
- Family members may side with abuser
 - No contact with grandchildren



Statistics

- Twenty percent of elder abuse involved caregiver neglect; 15% centered on emotional, psychological, or verbal abuse; 15% involved financial exploitation; 11% was physical abuse, and 1% was sexual abuse.
- Only an estimated 30% of sexual assaults against the elderly ever get reported to the authorities.



Forms of Abuse Healthcare Fraud



- Duplicate billings for the same medical servel device
- Evidence of inadequate care when bills are paid in full
- Evidence of overmedication or under-medic
- Problems with the care facility
 - Poorly trained, poorly paid, or insufficient staff
- Inadequate responses to questions about care

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Common Short-Term Victimization Reactions

- Shock
- Humiliation
- Self blame
- Frustration
- Disbelief
- Feeling helpless
- Shame
- Confusion
- Fear
- Grief
- Embarrassment
- Perceived lack of
- Anger
- security

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Long-Term Stress Reactions / "Traumatic Stress Syndrome"

- Flashbacks (PTSD)
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Sleep / eating disorders
- Difficulty doing normal activities

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Some Elders Do Not Report Because

- Afraid of retaliation.
- Believe will be placed in an institution.
- Ashamed that a family member mistreats them
- Believe police & social services cannot really
- Feel that no one will believe them.

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Sometimes people who suspect Elder Abuse do not report because:

- Don't know who to speak to.
- Don't know what can be done.
- Feel that no one will believe them.
- Treat as social service/civil law problem, not criminal conduct.
- Undervalue danger to victim.
- Assume victim is demented; see victim as the issue.

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If you suspect Elder Abuse

- Ensure safety & security.
- ▶ Be supportive & non-threatening.
 - "I am sorry this has happened to you"
- Express concern for well-being.
- "It may get worse if something isn't done."
- Don't express blame or anger.
 - "You don't deserve to be treated this way.
 - You don't have to take it anymore."

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Mandated Reporters

- Medical professionals
 - · Doctors, nurses, medical examiners, mental health
 - Physicians assistance, Physical therapist, EMT's ...
- Adult Protective Workers
- Law Enforcement
- Caregivers
- Case Managers
- Senior Center Directors-volunteers serve as important links in the response chain



Systems Responding to Elder Abuse

- Adult Protective Services
- Long Term Care Ombudsman
- Criminal justice agencies
- Health care providers
- Legal services (civil justice system)
- Aging services
- Community victim services

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Reporting Abuse

- The first agency to respond to a report of elderly abuse, in most states, is Adult Protective Services (APS).
 - Investigate abuse cases
 - Intervene
 - Offer services and advice
- Every state has at least one toll-free elder abuse hotline or helpline
- In the U.S., you can also call <u>EldercareLocator</u> at **1-800-677-1116**.

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Recognizing Elder Abuse

A senior receiving Meals on Wheels shows you his rare coin collection. Approximately a month later he again shows you his coin collection, however, several of the coins are now missing. When you ask the senior what has happened to his coins he tells you that his caretakers has taken the coins for payment for supplies. You return to the meal site and tell the Director – the Director notifies Adult Protective Services (APS).



29

Recognizing Elder Abuse

An elderly woman whom you have been delivering meals to- tells you her son recently moved in with her. A week later upon delivering a meal you notice a nasty bruise on her forearm and you ask her about it.



30

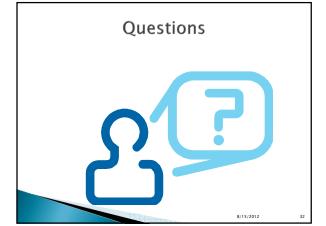
Recognizing Elder Abuse

"Oh, it's just an accident", she explains; the car door closed on it. She thanks you and upon accepting the meal closes the door quickly.

Something isn't quite right about her. You think about the bruise, and her change in behavior by greeting you at the door instead of having you come inside. Well, she has her son living with her now. Maybe that is why she has chosen to greet you at the door instead of having you come inside?

But there's something else — something isn't right.

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Elder Abuse Training Game

So You Want to Be An Elder Abuse Expert! Based on the Popular TV Game Show So You Want To Be A Millionaire

Overview -Rules of the Game

Each table and/or group of attendees is considered to be a participant-Table/ point person will pick a category- Statistics, Forms of Abuse, Amalgam, Switch tables /or groups for each question. Each question has a set of points. There are multiple choice answers which the trainer will provide on screen (power point) as well as provide the bonus points. Select one person at your table to keep score-track of the bonus points

If the individual at the table selected knows the answer to the question they can respond.

Or the individual can use the following two life line. Life lines per table/individual can only be used once

1st Lifeline the individual responding to the question can ask to poll the participants at the table. For instance how many at the table think it is A. show of hands B. show of hands or C show of hands.

2nd life line The individual can ask the entire audience. Audience responds how many think it is A. B. C by show of hands.

Questions

Statistics

- 1. What percentage of Older Women are far more likely to suffer abuse than men?
- 2. What is the estimated percentage of sexual assaults against the elderly that get reported to the authorities?
- 3. Who statistically speaking is not often the perpetrator of Elder Abuse?
- **3 B.** For additional bonus point what is the % of those perpetrators

Forms of Abuse

- 4. Desertion of an elder by a person who is responsible for providing care is considered what kind of abuse?
- 5. Infliction of anguish, pain, or distress through verbal/ nonverbal acts is a sign and symptom of what form of abuse?
- 6. Which of the following is considered to be a form of animal abuse?

Amalgam

- 7. Where does abuse most often take place?
- 8. Which of the following is considered a risk factor?
 - 9. Often the first agency to respond to a report of elder abuse, in most states is

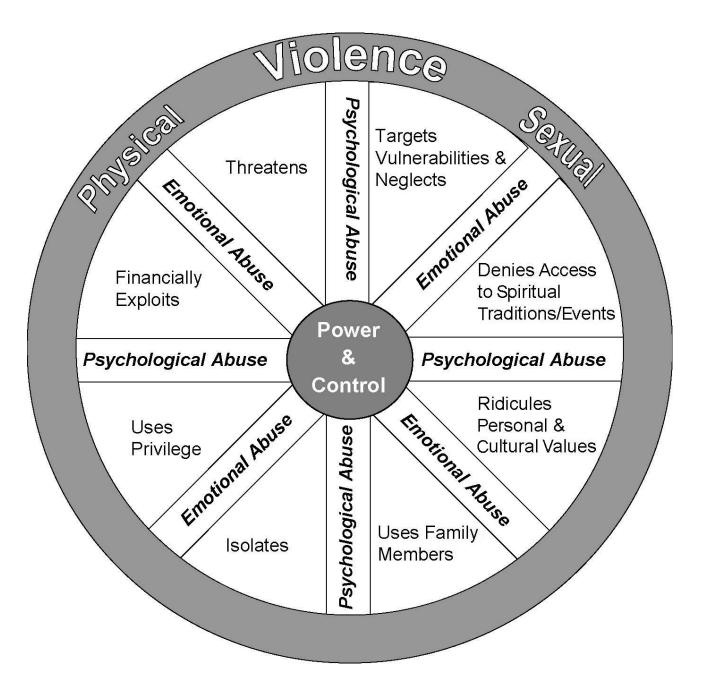
National Information and Referral Resources for Elder Protection and Safety

AGENCY	TELEPHONE NUMBER	WEBSITE URL
American Association of Retired Persons Internet Resources on Aging	888-OUR-AARP (888-687-2277) SPANISH LANGUAGE: 877-342-2277	http://www.aarp.org/research/internet resources/
Administration on Aging (AoA)	202-619-0724	www.aoa.gov
American Bar Association Commission on Law and Aging	202-662-8690	http://www.americanbar.org/groups/law_aging.html
Clearinghouse on Abuse and Neglect of the Elderly		www.cane.udel.edu
Identity Theft Hotline, Federal Trade Commission	877-ID-THEFT TTY 866-653-4261	www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/
Identity Theft Resource Center	1-888-400-5530	www.idtheftcenter.org/
National Adult Protective Services Association		http://www.apsnetwork.org/
National Center on Elder Abuse/AoA Eldercare State Locator	800-677-1116	www.ncea.aoa.gov/ncearoot/Main Site/index.aspx
National Center on Elder Abuse/AoA Directory of State Helplines, Hotlines and Elder Abuse Prevention Resources		http://www.ncea.aoa.gov/ncearoot/Main Site/Find Help/State Res ources.aspx#state
National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse	646-462-3603	www.preventelderabuse.org
National Council on Aging	202-479-1200	www.ncoa.org
National Domestic Violence Hotline	800-799-7233 TTY Hotline:	www.ndvh.org

	800-787-3224		
National Organization for Victim Assistance	800-879-6682	www.trynova.org	
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence	800-537-2238 TTY: 800-553-2508	www.nrcdv.org	
National Senior Citizens Law Center		http://www.nsclc.org/	
Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Department of Justice		www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc	
Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network	800-656-4673	www.rainn.org	
USA.gov for Seniors		http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Seniors.shtml	

Gaylord National Harbor Hotel

Abuse in Later Life Wheel



In 2006, NCALL adapted the Power and Control Wheel, developed by the Domestic Abuse Intervention Project, Duluth, MN. Resource updated, April 2011.



Tactics Used by Abusers

During 2005, NCALL staff asked facilitators of older abused women's support groups to have participants review the Duluth Domestic Abuse Intervention Project's Power and Control Wheel. Over 50 survivors from eight states responded. NCALL created this Abuse in Later Life Wheel from their input.

In addition to the tactics on the wheel, many offenders justify or minimize the abuse and deny that they are abusive. Perpetrators of abuse in later life may make comments like "she's just too difficult to care for" or "he abused me as a child" to blame the victim, or try to minimize the abuse by stating the victim bruises easily or injuries are the incidental result of providing care. The list below provides additional examples of some of the behaviors victims might experience under each tactic included on the wheel.

Physical Abuse

- Hits, chokes, burns, pinches, throws things
- Restrains elder to chair or bed

Sexual Abuse

- Sexually harms during care giving
- Forces sex acts
- Forces elder to watch pornography

Psychological Abuse

- Engages in crazy-making behavior
- Publicly humiliates

Emotional Abuse

- Yells, insults, calls names
- Degrades, blames

Targets Vulnerabilities and Neglects

- Takes or denies access to items needed for daily living
- Refuses transportation
- Denies food, heat, care, or medication
- Does not follow medical recommendations
- Refuses to dress or dresses inappropriately

Denies Access to Spiritual & Traditional Events

- Refuses transportation or access
- Destroys spiritual or traditional items of importance

Ridicules Personal and Cultural Values

- Disrespectful of cultural practices
- Ignores values when making decisions

Uses Family Members

- Misleads family members regarding condition of elder
- Excludes or denies access to family

Isolates

- Controls what elder does, who they see and what they do
- Denies access to phone or mail

Uses Privilege

- Speaks for elder at financial and medical appointments
- Makes all major decisions

Financial Exploits

- Steals money, titles, or possessions
- Abuses a power of attorney or guardianship

Threatens

- Threatens to leave or commit suicide
- Threatens to institutionalize
- Abuses or kills pet or prized livestock
- Displays or threatens with weapons

Information about Laws Related to Elder Abuse

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Overview

This document provides background information about federal and state statutes related to elder abuse. It also provides for each state, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands (hereafter referred to generically as "state" or "states") the citation to three categories of laws: adult protective services (APS), institutional abuse, and the long term care ombudsman program (LTCOP). These three categories are explained below. Criminal laws are also discussed briefly, although citations for them are not included on this Web page. Unless otherwise indicated, this explanation uses "state" or "states" generically to include states, the District of Columbia, and the three territories listed above.

Although they are not included in this document, other laws in a jurisdiction may provide remedies or authorize services for older abused persons. For example, a state's domestic violence or family violence law may provide useful tools such as restraining orders, even if only in limited instances of elder abuse (i.e., physical abuse committed by a spouse or certain other persons included in the state's law). State laws on guardianship/conservatorship and general or durable powers of attorney may be important in cases of elder abuse. Moreover, regulations and policies may supplement a state's laws relating to elder abuse.

The document also contains links to the law or to the state government Web pages. It also includes a discussion of the resources that an individual can use to obtain copies of state statutes. Copies of other federal and state laws are NOT available from the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA).

This document is based on information current at the end of August 2005. Statutory citations do not change often, but there is always the possibility that a law will be revised and renumbered or even repealed. The American Bar Association, Commission on Law and Aging staff will update this information periodically. If you are aware of changes or errors, please feel free to notify Lori Stiegel by e-mail at LStiegel@staff.abanet.org and we will update or correct the information as quickly as possible.

Federal Law on Elder Abuse

Federal laws on child abuse and domestic violence fund services and shelters for victims, but there is no comparable federal law on elder abuse. The federal Older Americans Act (42 U.S.C. § 3001 et seq., as amended) does provide definitions of elder abuse and authorizes the use of federal funds for the NCEA and for certain elder abuse awareness and coordination activities in states and local communities, but it does not fund adult protective services or shelters for abused older persons.

Adult Protective Services Laws

All fifty states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands have enacted legislation authorizing the provision of adult protective services (APS) in cases of elder abuse. Generally, these APS laws establish a system for the reporting and investigation of elder abuse and for the provision of social services to help the victim and ameliorate the abuse. In most jurisdictions, these laws pertain to abused adults who have a disability, vulnerability, or impairment as defined by state law, not just to older persons. Some states, however, have distinct elder protective services laws or programs and this chart indicates those jurisdictions.

These statutes vary widely in: the age at or circumstances under which a victim is eligible to receive protective services; the definition of abuse; types of abuse, neglect and exploitation that are covered; classification of the abuse as criminal or civil; reporting (mandatory or voluntary); investigation responsibility and procedures; and remedies for abuse.

Some state APS laws only relate to individuals who reside in the community (what is called "domestic abuse"), while other APS laws also include individuals who reside in long term care facilities (known as "institutional abuse"). States may define long term care facilities (LTCF) differently; moreover, some states include other types of institutions (such as mental health facilities) in their statutes also.

Institutional Abuse Laws

In some states, APS investigates allegations of abuse, neglect or exploitation against individuals who reside in the community and a separate law addresses institutional abuse. There are also a few states in which there is no separate institutional abuse law, but the APS law provides that a state agency other than APS is responsible for receiving reports about and investigating institutional abuse.

Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

Additionally, all states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands have laws authorizing the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP), which is responsible for advocating on behalf of long term care facility residents who experience abuse, violations of their rights, or other problems. The LTCOP is mandated in each state as a condition of receiving federal funds under the Older Americans Act. LTCOPs are an integral part of the systemic response to elder abuse. LTCOPs may discover an abusive situation when responding to complaints within a facility and then, if appropriate, make a referral to an APS program or the agency responsible for investigating institutional abuse, a law enforcement agency, or the agency responsible for licensing and certifying such facilities. Moreover, in some states, the LTCOP actually fulfills the APS function and has the legal authority to investigate and respond to abuse occurring within long term care facilities.

Criminal Laws

Although they are not included in this document, an increasing number of states are passing laws that provide explicit criminal penalties for various forms of elder abuse. Legislatures are also signaling their intent that elder abuse be treated as a crime in other ways. For example, some APS laws include a provision stating that elder abuse may be prosecuted criminally, while others define certain acts (e.g., sexual abuse) in the same words or by reference to definitions that are used in the criminal laws.

Even if there is not a specific statute or provision authorizing criminal prosecution for elder abuse, a jurisdiction's basic criminal laws (e.g., battery, assault, theft, fraud, rape, manslaughter, or murder) can be used to prosecute someone who has committed an act of abuse against an older person. Some legislatures have enacted enhanced penalties for certain crimes against older persons.

Other Relevant Laws

Other state laws may be pertinent in cases involving elder abuse, even though they are not cited in this document. Such laws include those addressing guardianship/conservatorship, general or durable powers of attorney, and domestic violence or family violence prevention.

Links to the Three Categories of State Laws

This Web page provides links to all of the laws listed. Many of the links will link you directly to the law itself. Others may link you to the state government Web page. From there you will have to search to find the law. Many state government Web pages will allow you to search by statutory citation. Others however, may require you to browse through laws by title or chapter. For more information on searching for laws on the Internet see "Internet Search Tips" below.

Resources for Finding State Laws

A variety of resources exist that will enable you to research and obtain copies of state laws. Libraries and the Internet will be the most likely resources.

Libraries

If you are looking for the law of your own state the public library in your community may have a set of statutes. If a law library near you is open to the public (check at the courthouse that serves your community or at a local law school), you will definitely be able to access statutes there.

Internet

If you are looking for the law of another state or if you have no access to statutes at any public or law libraries, then your best option is to search the Internet. Here are some Web sites that will link you to state laws on-line:

• Thomas (U.S. Senate): http://www.prairienet.org/~scruffy/f.htm

- American Law Sources On-line (ALSO): http://www.lawsource.com/also/
- FindLaw: http://www.findlaw.com/casecode/state.html
- Law Library of Congress: http://www.loc.gov/law/guide/usstates.html

Internet Search Tips

It is impossible to provide specific instructions on what you should do to find a specific law using Internet-based databases because each state's system for citing (identifying) and formatting its laws is different. Some general tips are offered below. We have tried to make these tips as simple as possible, but recognize that the process may seem very difficult. Don't be intimidated; you will probably find that the process seems much more complicated when you are reading about it than when you are actually using the Internet-based databases and statutory citations.

The first problem you may encounter when using Internet-based databases such as the ones listed above is actually getting to a state's laws. A state may refer to its laws as statutes, code(s), or laws. You may have to look carefully to find the appropriate term; it may be listed on its own or it may be combined with other things such as a state's constitution or administrative regulations.

The second problem--finding the actual law for which you are looking--is even more complicated. You may be able to search by using citation numbers, a word search, or both. However, a word search can be difficult unless you know the exact title of the law you are seeking because states use different terms in the titles of their laws. For example, California's APS law is entitled "Adult Protective Services" while North Carolina's APS law is entitled "Protection of the Abused, Neglected or Exploited Disabled Adult Act." Also, names of laws are more likely to be revised than citation numbers. For that reason, this Web page provides citation numbers rather than the names of the laws.

Using citation numbers presents a third problem because states have different ways of formatting their citations. The citations listed previously are written in "blue book" format. This is the format that is used most often by lawyers when they are writing articles or documents for presentation to a court and it is the appropriate way to indicate citations in a document such as this one. These citations give you the information you need to use the databases in the websites listed above.

Understanding the meaning of the numbers and the importance of their order can make your search much easier because it is very important to know in what code, chapter, or title a provision of the law is located. Sometimes a citation format will clearly indicate as in California (Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code § 15600 et seq.). Most other states are like Alabama (Ala. Code § 38-9-1 et seq.), which simply uses numerical and symbolic (hyphens, colons, periods) formats as a guide to indicate the location of a statutory provision. The first number of the guide is the broadest category and the latter numbers indicate more specific categories. Thus, if the database you are searching prompts you to first indicate what section/title/chapter you are looking for and the citation does not explicitly use those (or any) terms, use the first number provided. The subsequent numbers indicate sub-parts and also should be used in the order indicated.

This symbol -- § -- represents "section." As explained above the citation list uses "blue book" format. Sometimes the words and symbols for a state citation in blue book format are not the same as the symbols and words actually used in the state statute. States may use terms like "title" or "chapter" or "code" instead of "section." For example, Florida's APS law (cited as Fla. Stat. Ann. § 415.101 et seq.) is actually found at "chapter 415, section 101", not at "section 415, subsection 101." Again, if you understand the meaning of the numbers and the importance of their order, you will be able to use them regardless of the words that are used to label them.

The term "et seq." is an abbreviation that means "and the following." It indicates that there is more than one sub-part to the statute.

OVC NEWS & PROGRAM UPDATES



Responding to Elder Abuse, Exploitation, and Victimization

February 2012

OVC Helps Local Programs Focus on Senior Victims of Identity Theft



"Older people are often fearful of stepping forward when they discover they have been victimized because of the fear of being labeled incompetent. Through the coalition we hope to de-stigmatize victimization so that older adults can get the help they deserve to recover what has been taken from them."

 Carlos Rodriguez, retired New York Assistant Attorney General and Finger Lakes Identity Theft Coalition chair

or criminals, identity theft is a high-yield, low-risk crime. This is particularly true when the victims are older individuals (seniors) who have retired from the workplace and are, therefore, living on a fixed income. Without future employment earnings to pay off debt and meet daily needs, many senior victims face a grim recovery from victimization and can be particularly in need of assistance.

It's a need that OVC recognized and began working to fill some time ago. Its efforts led to the National Identity Theft Victims Assistance Network Project,



which began providing technical assistance and support to new coalitions dedicated to expanding and improving services to older victims of identity

theft in October 2011. The project is the result of a cooperative agreement between OVC and the Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc. Its goal is

CONTINUED ON PG. 2

Updated almost daily, <u>OVC.gov</u> provides quick and easy access to many resources that help to enhance victim services around the Nation. Tour the <u>OVC Web site</u> now!

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to our first edition of OVC News & Program Updates for 2012, a year that is certain to bring new challenges to all of us who serve victims of crime. In this issue we focus on elder abuse, a complex crime that can be extremely difficult to recognize and resolve, especially as abusers may be loved ones. Nevertheless, it is critical that we learn to respond effectively to



this crime because the U.S. population is "graying" at a rapid rate: the U.S. Census Bureau projects that 62 million Americans will be age 65 or older by 2025.

This issue features a broad array of information to provide insight into elder abuse issues and guide readers toward a more effective response, from policymaking to promising practices. We profile state- and county-based coalitions designed to address the specific needs of older victims of identity theft, domestic violence, and other crimes. We also highlight a national clearinghouse for training and resources, as well as OVC's latest tools for informing and educating service providers, advocates, and other professionals about the care and protection needed by this population.

The urgent need for action on this issue is underscored by our "Victims' Voices" feature, which recounts actor Mickey Rooney's experience of abuse. His story demonstrates that there are no guarantees against this cruel but increasingly common violation of trust against some of the most vulnerable members of our communities.

–Joye Frost, Acting DirectorOffice for Victims of Crime

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Mr. Mickey Rooney Fights To Regain Quality of Life2
Research to Practice: Elder Abuse4
Domestic Violence Does Not Respect Age5
Workgroup Seeks Justice and Services for California's Older Citizens9

OVC Helps . CONTINUED FROM PG. 1

to improve the outreach and capacity of victim service programs to better address the rights and needs of identity theft victims nationwide.

The project is supporting 10 coalitions, with 4 particularly focused on addressing the needs and rights of older Americans who may fall prey to identity theft: the Arizona Identity Theft Network, the Finger Lakes

Identity Theft Coalition, the Idaho Statewide Identity Theft Coalition, and the Wisconsin Identity Theft Network. For more information, please e-mail Merry O'Brien, Project Director, or find us online at identitytheftnetwork.org. See page 10 for each coalition's contact information.

"My hope is that our coalition will be of great benefit to Idaho seniors by increasing service providers' understanding of the needs of victims and then addressing those needs to prevent re-victimization and minimize continuing damage to the seniors' financial stability, emotional well-being, and physical health. By developing best practices for our community to tackle the various financial and legal problems resulting from identity theft, our coalition hopes to help senior identity theft victims feel empowered."

— Sunrise Ayers, Coordinator, Idaho Statewide Identity Theft Coalition

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Victims' Voices

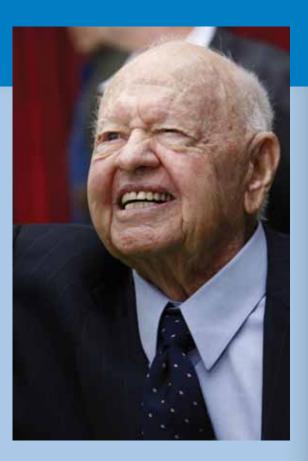
Mr. Mickey Rooney Fights to Regain Quality of Life

ickey Rooney is a Hollywood legend whose illustrious career has spanned over nine decades. From his start in vaudeville as a toddler, Mr. Rooney has appeared in hundreds of films and on television and Broadway. He is still in demand for personal appearances and entertainment.

At age 91, Mr. Rooney remains mentally competent and physically able. Like many actors, Mr. Rooney has always relied on others to manage the business and financial aspects of his career. During the past decade, Mr. Rooney placed his confidence in his stepson Mr. Chris Aber, based on their family relationship and his initial trust and faith in him. Assuming the role of Mr. Rooney's agent in most, if not all, aspects of his life, Mr. Aber is alleged to have maintained a confidential fiduciary relationship with him.

Mr. Rooney, in a petition filed in the California state court, has accused Mr. Aber of naming himself as account owner and signatory on all Mr. Rooney's accounts. The petition accuses Mr. Aber of regularly signing checks payable to himself for his personal expenses and transferring Mr. Rooney's income to personal accounts held by himself and his wife Ms. Christina Aber. Allegedly, unknown to Mr. Rooney, the couple arranged for ATM and credit cards for their use. In addition, Mr. Aber is accused of establishing a post office box under his exclusive control and arranging for Mr. Rooney's mail to be diverted there, thus preventing him from receiving his mail and being apprised of his finances.

Mr. Aber is further accused of failing to properly pay Mr. Rooney's bills and taxes, resulting in exorbitant credit card fees and interest rates, foreclosure notices, and



damaged credit. The petition alleges that, in a unique position of trust, Mr. Aber exploited Mr. Rooney's celebrity to fund an opulent lifestyle for himself and his family—at Mr. Rooney's expense. Mr. Aber is accused of scheduling the

CONTINUED ON PG. 3

Victims' Voices • CONTINUED FROM PG. 2

entertainer's personal appearances and acting engagements, controlling negotiations and contract terms, and committing Mr. Rooney to appearances he would have refused, had he been consulted. Declining an appearance was not an option, as Mr. Rooney alleges that he was forced to honor these contracts.

Mr. Rooney's petition indicates that when he attempted to take control over his own affairs, he met with resistance and intimidation. Ordering one's groceries is a simple matter for most people. Mr. Rooney contends that Mr. Aber had conditioned him to accept groceries delivered only by himself or his wife, once every 3 or 4 weeks, sometimes with the groceries being dumped on his front lawn. In one instance, while Mr. Aber was on vacation, Mr. Rooney said that he was running low on food and contacted a nearby grocery store to establish an account for grocery delivery. According to Mr. Rooney, when Mr. Aber

In my situation, the abuse involved family members. I was torn because I knew that if I spoke up it would create a great deal of turmoil for my family. Some family members would deny that we were anything but one big, happy family in public. Others would be outraged. And still others would seek retribution.

Eventually I did speak up. I did it because I could no longer live with the pain of the abuse. I want to put a spotlight on the problem and let those abusers know they are no longer going undetected.

-Mickey Rooney



discovered this, he instructed the store to cancel the account and discontinue communications with Mr. Rooney.

Seeing no other alternative, Mr. Rooney voluntarily sought to have a conservator appointed to oversee the protection of himself and his estate from fraud and undue influence. By the time the court appointed a conservator, Mr. Rooney owned a single pair of shoes, was missing all of his personal identification and medical insurance cards, and had no access to any of his own funds.

Attorneys for Mr. Rooney and his conservator, Michael R. Augustine, successfully filed for a restraining order against Mr. Aber, requiring him to stay away from Mr. Rooney and his home. They have also petitioned for breach of fiduciary duty, elder abuse, fraud, action to compel accounting, misappropriation of name and likeness, and violation of civil code section 3344 against both Mr. Aber and Ms. Aber, and two non-relatives.

I know what many of you must be thinking. How could this happen to Mickey Rooney? Yet, as many of you know, elder abuse has no bounds. Rich or poor, famous, weak or strong; if there is something to be gained by people with a selfish agenda, they will attempt to strip you of any dignity and your rights.

-Mickey Rooney

Mr. Rooney testified before the Senate Special Committee on Aging in March 2011. His archived webcast and written testimony are available on the Committee's Web site.

Note: The contents of this article are primarily derived from and summarize the Petition for Breach of Fiduciary Duties, Elder Abuse, and Fraud filed in the Superior Court of the State of California (Case No. BP 126970), on behalf of Mr. Rooney, and prepared remarks delivered by Mr. Rooney at a symposium on elder abuse.

I woke up each day to a chain of events that both saddened and frightened me. I could not believe what had become of my life. Since I have spoken out about the abuse I have silently endured, my life has changed tremendously.

-Mickey Rooney

Research to Practice: Elder Abuse

By: Debra Whitcomb, Visiting Fellow, Office for Victims of Crime

What we know about elder abuse lags some 40 years behind child abuse and 20 years behind domestic violence. We don't know why it occurs, how often it occurs among several populations, how much it costs, what practices and programs are most effective in addressing it, what the relationships are among its various forms, or how to detect and prevent it. We don't even know how to define what a successful intervention looks like.

hese are the words of Marie-Therese (MT) Connolly in her recent testimony before the Senate Special Committee on Aging. Connolly, a 2011 recipient of the prestigious MacArthur Foundation "genius" grant, is perhaps the Nation's most visible advocate for older crime victims. She uses her "bully pulpit" to great advantage, relying heavily on research results that emphasize the need for increased attention on elder abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation.

and financial exploitation and to identify the projected costs of this abuse to individuals and society. Although research in this area is admittedly sparse, resourceful advocates can benefit from the available knowledge in many ways. Two notable examples of this advocacy are Candace Heisler and Bonnie Brandl.

Heisler is a former prosecutor who now trains multidisciplinary professionals on topics relating to victims who are older or disabled. She

relies heavily on research to explain that the physical appearance of bruises is not helpful in estimating the timing of injuries or that brain function in older victims may slow down but this does not necessarily diminish their reliability. She cites research supporting the value of multidisciplinary teams in elder abuse cases and support groups for helping victims heal. For more information about sexual abuse in later life, Heisler recommends the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, and for assistance with relevant medical and forensic research, she suggests the Center of Excellence on Elder Abuse and Neglect at the University of California-Irvine.

Brandl, Director of the National Clearing-house on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL), points to the value of using research to inform our approach to elder abuse cases. For instance, thanks to ongoing research, "caregiver stress" is no longer recognized as a primary factor contributing to elder abuse; instead, the "power and control" paradigm has taken its place, leading to significant shifts in intervention strategies.

Even research findings that offer nothing new to experienced victim advocates are helpful because they validate the work that both advocates and researchers have been doing. After all, researchers need input from the field to ensure that their studies will add value to the work advocates do. Share your good ideas.

Marie-Therese (MT) Connolly,
Director of Life long Justice at
Appleseed and 2011 recipient
of the prestigious MacArthur
Foundation 'genius' grant.

Courtesy the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

In 1999, as Director of the Department of Justice's Elder Justice and Nursing Home Initiative, MT worked with OVC to support several grants aimed at enhancing services for older victims. Today, as Director of Life Long Justice at Appleseed and a Senior Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center, MT remains involved in federal legislation—most notably, helping to write the Elder

Following Connolly's lead, you can use research in your presentations to policymakers and the general public in your own communities to underscore how many older people become victims of abuse, neglect,

Justice Act, which was passed by Congress in 2010.

Researchers want to hear from you! What questions are most important to your work? E-mail <u>Debra Whitcomb</u> to share your ideas.

Domestic Violence Does Not Respect Age

By: Alice Ghareib, Area Agency on Aging, Region One

e as a society do not want to believe that late-life domestic violence and elder abuse exist. The sad truth is that older people are being victimized in their own homes every day. In Maricopa County, Arizona, for example, there are more than 4,000 adult abuse and neglect reports each year. It is estimated that 10 times that number of victims exist but most are too afraid or ashamed to seek help.

The DOVES® program was designed to serve this population—victims of late-life domestic violence and elder abuse—in Maricopa County. Developed by the Area Agency on Aging, Region One, it is the first program of its kind in Arizona and possibly in the United States. The program reaches out to victims through education, support groups, emergency housing, transitional housing, and interim housing. Older victims of abuse have specific and unique needs that are not addressed by traditional domestic violence programs and shelters that focus on younger women with children. Although DOVES is open to both women and men, it is women who have the most difficulty finding protection and leaving their abusers. Women frequently have—

- No access to or control of resources, such as cash, or a bank account.
- Never worked outside the home (often were not allowed to).
- Few marketable job skills.

- No Social Security benefits.
- No car, cab fare, or other transportation options.
- Very little community or family support.
- Low self-esteem resulting from years of verbal and/or physical intimidation.
- Cultural and religious obstacles to divorce.



DOVES offers support groups to help older victims of abuse find friendship and hope and begin to overcome the isolation that is a hallmark of abuse. The program also partners with nursing homes and assisted living facilities in the community to provide victims with free emergency housing for up to 2 weeks. Unfortunately, 2 weeks is not long enough to change a lifetime marked by abuse, no matter how short that lifetime may be or how young the victim. At the end of the 2 weeks, many women (and some men) return to their abusers because they have no other place to go.

In 2003, the DOVES program addressed this problem by expanding its resources to include transitional housing for up to 2 years in a 17-unit apartment complex. Housing is not these victims' only need, however. Many residents leave their homes in crisis and arrive at DOVES with few or no personal belongings, so DOVES provides not only a safe haven, but also food, clothing, personal care items, counseling, and referrals to any other services residents may need.

DOVES staff members provide intensive one-on-one case management and support services to help older victims through this difficult time and put them on a path toward a fresh start in life. The program also offers interim housing for DOVES clients who are ready to live on their own but are waiting for affordable housing or to complete school or a training program that will enable them to find employment and become self-sufficient.

The DOVES program receives support from charitable trusts, foundations, businesses, organizations, and individuals through grant funding and cash and in-kind donations. For more information about DOVES or other services and programs offered by the Area Agency on Aging, visit www.dovesprogram.org or call our 24-hour Senior HELP LINE at 602–264–HELP (264–4357) or toll free at 888–783–7500.



Save the Date in Abuse Awareness Day

CrimeSolutions.gov Launched To Inform Practitioners

and Policymakers

he Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) launched www.crimesolutions.gov last year. This new Web site is a central, credible resource for informing practitioners and policymakers about what works in justice-related programs and practices, including crime victim services. It includes information on more than 150 justice-related programs and assigns "evidence ratings"—effective, promising, or no effects—to indicate whether there is evidence from research that a program achieves its goals. Approximately 45 of these programs are evaluated on the Victimization page, which focuses on victims, victimization, crisis intervention/response, health, and mental health.

The Web site's purpose is to assist in practical decisionmaking and program implementation by gathering information on specific justice-related programs and reviewing the existing evaluation research against standard criteria. It is a tool for understanding and accessing scientific evidence about programs, and integrating that evidence into programmatic and policy decisions.

"We all have tight budgets today," explained Laurie O. Robinson, Assistant Attorney General. "CrimeSolutions.gov helps us take a 'smart on crime' approach that relies on data-driven, evidence-based analysis to identify and replicate justice-related programs that have shown real results in preventing and reducing crime and serving crime victims."



The new Web site is part of the Evidence Integration Initiative (E2I) launched by Assistant Attorney General Robinson in 2009. The Initiative has three goals: improving the quantity and quality of evidence that OJP generates; integrating evidence into program, practice, and policy decisions within OJP and the field; and improving the translation of evidence into practice.

<u>Click here for more information</u> about how to use the information provided on CrimeSolutions.gov or <u>here for FAQs</u>.

NCALL Challenges, Changes Beliefs About Older Victims of Abuse

Ider victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking are often a hidden population in



communities throughout the United States. One organization that works every day to improve victim safety, increase abuser accountability, expand the community's response, and ultimately, put an end to abuse in later life is the National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL).

In 1999, the Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence created NCALL with funding from the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women. Since 2002, NCALL has provided this office with technical assistance for its "Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women Later in Life Program." Today, NCALL is a nationally recognized leader on program development, policy, technical assistance, and training that addresses the nexus between domestic violence and sexual assault and elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Through its advocacy and education, NCALL strives to challenge and change the beliefs, policies, practices, and systems that allow abuse to occur and continue. It also works to improve victim safety by increasing both the

quality and availability of victim services and support, especially for older victims, where the need is less recognized by society.

NCALL staff and consultants have trained thousands of professionals throughout the country; written six national model training curricula; been published in numerous journals; and created a variety of interactive exercises, toolkits, and other materials on abuse in later life. NCALL's target audiences include domestic violence and sexual abuse advocates, aging network workers, justice professionals, faith community leaders, and social workers, among others.

For more information, contact NCALL staff at-

National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life

307 S. Paterson Street, Suite #1 Madison, WI 53703–3517 608–255–0539 608–255–3560 (Fax/TTY)

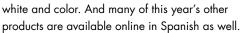
2012 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide Released

he Office for Victims of Crime, in partnership with the National Center for Victims of Crime, is pleased to announce the availability of the 2012 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide. The 2012 National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) theme—Extending the Vision: Reaching Every Victim—calls on us to revisit, revive, and expand the vision that inspired the crime victims' movement and the progress we celebrate each year.

The theme is woven throughout the Resource Guide's wide array of user-friendly outreach and awareness tools. Looking for current statistics on victimization, or for information on the history of victims' rights in the United States? Want to learn some great tips for working with the media, or discover new ideas for public events to help raise awareness of crime victims' rights and issues within your community? The 2012 NCVRW Resource Guide gives you this information and more!

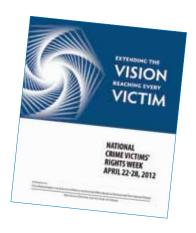
This year's guide includes a variety of camera-ready artwork branded with this year's NCVRW theme image. You will find buttons and magnets to help you advertise your NCVRW events and bookmarks, name tags, table cards, letterhead, and a certificate of appreciation that you

can customize by adding your agency's information—all to assist you in advertising your NCVRW events and making them memorable. In addition, you will find three customizable public awareness posters, in English and Spanish, and in black and



We hope you find the NCVRW Resource Guide and its tools useful as you plan your own events during NCVRW, April 22–28, 2012. The entire Guide can be downloaded for free.

Included in the Resource Guide are facts about elder victimization.



New York City Observes National Crime Victims' Rights Week

ast year, in observance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week 2011, the New York City Mayor's Office hosted the launch of part of the "Let's Call An End To Human Trafficking" multimedia crime awareness initiative at the Bronx Family Justice Center. Among the guests were the Honorable Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen, Dutch National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings, and Dr. Michael Korzinkski, Cofounding Director of the Helen Bamber Foundation. They honored survivors of the crime to "reshape the future" by promoting victims' rights, and recognized the community partners who tirelessly advocate on each victim's behalf.

The initiative involved a video public service announcement (PSA) narrated by Emma Thompson. The PSA has aired on Time Warner Cable, CNN, NY 1, CUNY TV, NYC TV, and in taxis around New York City. It remains on the city's anti-human trafficking Web site in English, Mandarin Chinese, Russian, and Spanish. Outreach also included ads in print media, including ethnic newspapers and palm cards in six languages that continue to be distributed throughout the city. The

campaign was made possible by the support of the Somaly Mam Foundation, Emma Thompson, the Helen Bamber Foundation, Estée Lauder, and in-kind support from Grey New York.

The New York City Family Justice Center Initiative of the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence reduces barriers faced by victims of domestic violence and human trafficking by giving clients access to prosecutors, trained counselors, legal assistance, and supervision for their children in one location—all in the language

that the client is most comfortable speaking — making it the perfect venue for honoring crime victims' rights.

Community partners included the Coalition
Against Trafficking in Women–International;
Cultural Infinity; Crime Victims Treatment
Center; Davis Wright Tremaine LLP; Downstate



From left: Dr. Michael Korzinski, Cofounding Director of the Helen Bamber Foundation; Norma Abbene, Deputy Counsel to Mayor Bloomberg; Carol Robles-Roman, Deputy Mayor and Counsel to Mayor Bloomberg; the Hon. Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen, Dutch National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings; Yolanda Jimenez, Commissioner, Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence; Rachelle Abrahami, Executive Director of the New York City Family Justice Center.

Coalition for Crime Victims; ECPAT International; Equality Now; Fuel | we power change; GEMS; inMotion; My Sister's Place; New York Asian Women's Center; National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum; National Organization for Women NYC; NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault; NYU Graphic Communications Management and Technology Program; Safe Horizon; and Sanctuary for Families.

Pueblo of Jemez Launch Elder Abuse Initiative

n FY 2010, the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), U.S. Department of Justice, awarded the Pueblo of Jemez a grant to implement the Community Outreach and Victim Assistance Services to Address Elder Abuse Initiative. This 2-year project will work to improve community outreach and delivery of services to abused older people by (1) developing an elder code and improving prosecution; (2) employing Pueblo-based approaches, values, and beliefs regarding the care and treatment of older individuals; (3) working on conflict resolution; (4) developing elder advocacy services; (5) expanding community education about and awareness of elder abuse; and (6) creating partnerships to assist with delivering services, developing policies, and supporting older tribal members overall.

A collaborative effort between the Pueblo of Jemez Social Services Program and Senior Citizen Program, the program managers for each will work together to implement and oversee the project. Contributing partners also include the Jemez Tribal Court, Law Enforcement, Behavioral Health, Jemez Clinic, and traditionally appointed officials such as a member of the Governor's staff, the Traditional Sheriff, and community elders.

The Elder Abuse Advisory Committee, which is composed of 10 partners and 16 members, held 4 meetings to further define project activities relating to the committee's code development. Specific activities included researching the existing codes of other New Mexico Pueblos and tribes from other parts of Indian Country. Through this, the committee obtained 16 codes, which its members reviewed and used to discuss which codes they would include and modify for the tribe's new Jemez Elder Code.

To date, the program is progressing as the tribe continues to receive support from the newly appointed tribal leadership—Gover-



nor Michael Toledo, First Lieutenant George Shendo, and Second Lieutenant William Waquie.

For additional information, please e-mail <u>Tanya Miller</u>, OVC Victim Justice Program Specialist.

You Too Can Be an OVC Fellow: Apply Today!

he OVC FY 2012 Victim Assistance Professional Development Fellowship Program seeks applicants for activities related to financial fraud and abuse, with a focus on elder financial

exploitation and the relationship between financial abuse and other types of victimization.

The successful candidate will work onsite at OVC in Washington, D.C. This person must be knowledgeable about financial fraud and abuse and elder financial exploitation by both family members and individuals who have gained the older person's trust. The candidate will need to be able to address financial abuse, including identity theft, and its connection to other types of victimization, such as domestic violence and

child abuse. The individual selected for this fellowship also will support OVC's work with discretionary grantees to develop evidence-based training, technical assistance, and models for programs and practices

that will build the capacity of organizations and service providers to assist victims of these crimes.

The award amount is up to \$135,000, depending on professional

experience, salary history, and proposed travel costs. No more than \$95,000 can be allocated for salary. OVC fellowships are initially awarded for 12 months, after which they may be continued in 12-month periods for up to 3 years, contingent on funding and the grantee's performance.

The complete solicitation and instructions on how to apply for OVC's FY 2012 Victim Assistance Professional Development Fellowship Program are posted on www.grants.gov. The application deadline is May 1,

2012. If you have questions, contact Meg Morrow, Attorney Advisor, by phone at 202–307–5983 or by e-mail.



Workgroup Seeks Justice and Services for California's **Older Citizens**

By: Lisa Nerenberg MSW, MPH, Chair, California Elder Justice Workgroup Author, Elder Abuse Prevention: Emerging Trends and Promising Strategies

ven with the historic passage of the Elder Justice Act in 2010, the elder justice movement has much to accomplish. Stakeholders can play a prominent role in promoting programs and services for older Americans by creating and participating in statewide elder justice coalitions. The California Elder Justice Workgroup (CEJW) is one such example.

CEJW was launched by representatives of elder abuse programs that were part of the Archstone Foundation's Elder Abuse and Neglect Initiative, an \$8 million, 5-year program that supported 18 projects across California. The group met monthly to discuss challenges to its work that required systems advocacy and policy reform. For example, personnel in programs funded to conduct statewide training on the mandatory elder and dependent adult abuse reporting law discovered widespread discrepancies in how counties interpreted the law and responded to reports of neglect or abuse. Ensuring a uniform response clearly required state-level action.

The group solicited input from others within and beyond California, gathering momentum as well as a sizeable inventory of additional challenges, recommendations, and promising practices. Their efforts culminated in a statewide summit in April 2010, during which 92 professionals from various disciplines reviewed, discussed, and expanded upon the group's findings. The summit proceedings, an environmental scan of policy reports and recommendations, and additional discussions with professional associations and advocacy groups formed the

basis of the guide Improving California's Response to Elder Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation: A Blueprint, which is available at Improving California's Response.

The blueprint outlines 12 distinct needs in the following areas:

• Exchange among criminal, probate, family law, behavioral, and other courts that serve victims of elder abuse to identify common needs and interests. Specific topics include unmet needs for forensics research and experts, the benefits and costs of "elder courts," and the need for improved access to legal aid, advocacy, and court services by older adults.

- Improved service response to victims of elder financial crimes and exploitation, including mental health services to address the trauma of catastrophic financial losses, assistance with restitution recovery, and advocacy with creditors to mitigate abuserelated problems.
- Collaboration with providers of long-term services and supports to preserve the 'safety net," build in added safeguards such as assistance to older consumers in screening and hiring personal care attendants, develop risk assessment strategies, and expand the workforce that provides long-term services and supports by advocating for improved wages, training, and screening.

The blueprint has been widely disseminated as a model for local communities and states. Members of CEJW's Steering Committee

have presented testimony at state hearings; represented the elder abuse network on the Smart on Crime Work Group on Victims' Rights, sponsored by California Attorney General Kamala Harris; and helped state advocacy groups and legislative staff to develop proposals. Last summer, WISE & Healthy Aging in Los Angeles became CEJW's fiscal agent and partner. Future plans include launching a statewide membership organization to implement CEJW's blueprint and respond to the emerging

If you are interested in getting involved or receiving monthly news and updates from CEJW, visit the WISE & Healthy Aging Web site.

Arizona Identity Theft Network (AITN)

Focus All identity theft victims with an emphasis on

seniors and veterans

Coordinating Arizona Attorney General's Office

Agency

AITN consists of two goal-oriented task forces operating independently to increase awareness of identity theft, establish best practices for responding to the needs of identity theft victims, and develop and expand victim service networks. AITN is composed of coalition members from government agencies, law enforcement agencies, victim service providers, legal services providers, veterans' services, and academic institutions in Arizona.

Contact Amy Bocks, Office of Victim Services,

520-628-6454

Finger Lakes (NY) Identity Theft Coalition

Focus Senior identity theft victims

Coordinating Agency Lifespan of Greater Rochester

A regional network of professionals and other stakeholders in eight counties in the Finger Lakes region of New York will be developed to sponsor and coordinate activities. The goals of the coalition are to organize a systematic campaign to educate older people about identity theft, enable victims to take appropriate legal action to recover their assets, when possible; and provide supportive services that will help them to restore a sense of safety and integrity in their lives.

Contact Paul Cassamise, Vice President,

585-244-8400

Idaho Statewide Identity Theft Coalition (ISITC)

Focus Senior identity theft victims

Coordinatina Idaho Legal Aid Services (ILAS)

Agency

ISITC will provide identity theft outreach and training, enhance members' collaboration on the issue, and increase the number of attorneys trained to help victims. Coalition members will also collaborate to develop an online identity theft portal accessed through the ILAS and other Web sites to be used as tools for members and the general public.

Contact Sunrise Ayers, Coordinator,

208-345-0106

Wisconsin Identity Theft Network (WITN)

Focus Interfamilial identity theft

Coordinating Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups

Agency

WITN will create, enhance, and deliver training and outreach to improve the ability of its members to provide direct victim assistance to identity theft victims. The combination of underreporting of older identity theft victims and the frequent family-member perpetrators creates a huge gap in victim services in Wisconsin, so the network will focus on intrafamilial identity theft.

Contact John Hendrick, Project Director,

608-224-2114

Resources for Responding to Elder Mistreatment

DVDs

<u>In Their Own Words: Domestic Abuse in Later Life</u>, a DVD-guidebook package, uses the voices of victims to demonstrate that age offers



no protection from abuse, including the story of a 96-year-old grandmother who experienced longtime abuse by family members and ultimately survived a brutal sexual assault by her grandson. These compelling personal stories are complemented by interviews with victim service providers and criminal justice professionals. The training is intended to facilitate

dialogue about the dynamics of abuse, barriers for victims trying to leave an abusive relationship, and effective responses by service providers.

Responding to Elder Abuse, featuring three DVDs that may be ordered separately or all together, is targeted to meeting the needs of specific audiences. Each video focuses on one target audience, including judges and court personnel, law enforcement officers, and community corrections professionals.



Trainings

Nursing Response to Elder Mistreatment Curriculum

Developed by the International Association of Forensic Nurses and funded by OVC, this curriculum helps nurses acquire the knowledge

Resources • CONTINUED FROM PG.10

and skills they need to respond appropriately to elder mistreatment, and it is available at no cost. Downloadable materials include instructors' manuals, PowerPoint presentations, and participant materials for each module.

Identity Theft Victim Assistance Online Iraining: Supporting Victims' Financial and Emotional Recovery

Identity Theft Victim Assistance Online Training: Supporting Victims' Financial and Emotional Recovery is a user-friendly e-learning tool that will teach victim service professionals and allied professionals the knowledge and skills they need to more effectively serve victims of identity theft and to assist with their financial and emotional recovery.

Supporting Crime Victims with Disabilities

Collaboration between professionals in the victim services and disabilities fields means better services and stronger support for crime victims who have disabilities. This 3-day training is for victim service providers, advocates for people with disabilities, self-advocates, and allied professionals. Using case studies and small group discussions, you will examine the prevalence of crime against people with disabilities, perceptions of the criminal justice system, tenets of the disabilities movement, and the impact of disabilities on daily life. Through collaborative activities you will identify ways the various agencies, organizations, and systems can work together to better serve crime victims with disabilities.

<u>Click here</u> for additional OVC and OVCsponsored publications on elder abuse and victimization, and <u>here</u> for more resources on older victims. Research and additional publications about elder abuse are also available on the National Institute of Justice's Web site.

In addition, the <u>National Center on Elder</u>
<u>Abuse</u> at the U.S. Administration on Aging,
Department of Health and Human Services, is
another national resource center dedicated to
preventing elder mistreatment.

Other Publications

Sexual Violence in Later Life

This technical assistance guide for advocates was published by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The guide thoroughly investigates the complexity of the topic and includes information on signs and symptoms, special issues facing older victims, and primary prevention techniques.

Study Finds That School-Level Interventions Reduce Dating Violence

According to Shifting Boundaries: Final Report on an Experimental Evaluation of a Youth Dating Violence Prevention Program in New York City Middle Schools, school-level interventions reduced dating violence among middle school students by up to 50 percent in 30 New York City public schools. The combination of the classroom and school-level intervention alone led to a 32- to 47-percent reduction in sexual violence victimization and perpetration through at least 6 months after the intervention. Students receiving the school-level intervention were more likely to say that they would intervene as a bystander 6 months after the intervention as well.



STAY TUNED . . .

In the upcoming issue of OVC News & Program Updates you'll learn—

- About resources for assisting male survivors of sexual violence.
- About unique characteristics of victim services in the military.
- How you can tap into the "Show Me Love" public awareness campaign.

National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey

A new Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report cites that, on average, 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner in the United States. Findings from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey 2010 Summary Report also show that about 35 percent of women who were raped as minors were also raped as adults compared to 14 percent of women without an early rape history.

ABOUT THE OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME

The Office for Victims of Crime is one of six components within the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

Led by Acting Director Joye E. Frost, OVC is committed to enhancing the Nation's capacity to assist crime victims and to providing leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims of crime.

Established in 1988 through an amendment to the Victims of Crime Act of 1984, OVC is charged by Congress with administering the Crime Victims Fund. Through OVC, the Fund supports a broad array of programs and services that focus on helping victims in the immediate aftermath of crime and continuing to support them as they rebuild their lives. Millions of dollars are invested annually in victim compensation and assistance in every U.S. state and territory, as well as for training, technical assistance, and other capacity-building programs designed to enhance service providers' ability to support victims of crime in communities across the Nation.

For more information, visit www.ovc.gov.

Office for Victims of Crime Office of Justice Programs U.S. Department of Justice 810 Seventh Street NW. Washington, DC 20531 Phone: 202–307–5983 Fax: 202–514–6383

Stemming the Tide of Elder Abuse: How MOW Programs Can Help August 22, 2012, 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. 2012 MOWAA Annual Conference Gaylord National Harbor Hotel

A Response to the Abuse of Vulnerable Adults:

The 2000 Survey of State Adult Protective Services

The National Center on Elder Abuse

The National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse

The National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators

The National Association of State Units on Aging

A RESPONSE TO THE ABUSE OF VULNERABLE ADULTS: The 2000 Survey of State Adult Protective Services

Pamela B. Teaster, Ph. D.

The National Center on Elder Abuse

National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse

The National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators

The National Center on Elder Abuse

Dedicated to the Memory of Rosalie Wolf, Ph.D.

President, National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse

National Center on Elder Abuse 1201 15th Street, NW, Suite 350 Washington, DC . 20005-2800 (202) 898-2586 Fax: (202) 898-2583

NCEA@nasua.org www.elderabusecenter.org Dr. Teaster gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Advisory Committee for the 50 State Study, especially the extraordinary editing and consultation contributions of Marilyn Whalen.

Contact Information:

Pamela B. Teaster, Ph.D.
University of Kentucky School of Public Health
Ph.D. Program in Gerontology
Sanders-Brown Center on Aging
306 Health Sciences Building
900 South Limestone
The University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky 40536-0230
Phone: 859.257.1450 x 80196

Fax: 859.323.5747 pteaster@uky.edu

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES ADMINISTRATORS STUDY COMMITTEE

National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators (NAAPSA)

Paula Mixson

Chairperson and Board Member for NAAPSA Research Committee Adult Protective Services, Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services

Eva Kutas

NAAPSA President, Oregon Adult Protective Services Division of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities

Joanne Marlatt Otto

NAAPSA Research Committee, Executive Director of NAAPSA

Marilyn Whalen

NAAPSA and NCPEA Board of Directors, NAAPSA Research Committee Director, Adult Protective Services, Tennessee Department of Human Services

Joy Duke

NAAPSA and NCPEA Board of Directors, NAAPSA Research Committee, Virginia Adult Protective Services (Retired) National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (NCPEA)

Rosalie Wolf, Ph.D.
President, NCPEA (deceased)

Pamela B. Teaster, Ph.D.

First Vice President, NCPEA University of Kentucky School of Public Health Ph.D. Program in Gerontology Sanders-Brown Center on Aging

National Association of State Units on Aging

Sara Aravanis

Director, National Center on Elder Abuse

University of Kentucky, Sanders-Brown Center on Aging

Tyler A. Dugar

Research Assistant, Ph.D. Program in Gerontology

THE NATIONAL CENTER ON ELDER ABUSE

THE NATIONAL CENTER ON ELDER ABUSE (NCEA) is administered by the National Association of State Units on Aging as the lead agency and funded by grant No. 90-AP-2144 from the U.S. Administration on Aging. NCEA consists of a consortium of six partner organizations.

NCEA exists to provide elder abuse information to professionals and the public; offer technical assistance and training to elder abuse agencies and related professionals; conduct short-term elder abuse research; and assist with elder abuse program and policy development. NCEA's website and clearing-house contain many resources and publications to help achieve these goals.

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

National Center on Elder Abuse National Association of State Units on Aging

Sara Aravanis, Director

1201 15th Street, NW, Suite 350 Washington, DC 20005-2800 (202) 898-2586 / Fax: (202) 898-2583 NCEA@nasua.org

Elder Abuse Prevention Program Institute on Aging

Mary Twomey, Director 3330 Geary Blvd.

(415) 447-1989, ext. 513 / Fax: (415) 447-1250 mtwomey@ioaging.org

San Francisco, CA 94118

National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators

Ricker Hamilton, President

Department of Human Services Maine Bureau of Elderly & Adult Services

Joanne Marlatt Otto, Executive Director

960 Lincoln Place Boulder, Colorado 80302 (720) 565-0906 / Fax: (303) 443-3361 joanne.otto@naapsa.org

Clearinghouse on Abuse and Neglect of the Elderly (CANE) Department of Consumer Studies, University of Delaware

Karen Stein, Director

Newark, DE 19716 (302) 831-3525 / Fax: (302) 831-6081

Commission on Law and Aging American Bar Association

Lori Stiegel, Associate Staff Director

740 15th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-1022 (202) 662-8692 / Fax: (202) 662-8698 lstiegel@staff.abanet.org

National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse c/o Matz, Blancato & Associates

Bob Blancato, President

1101 Vermont Avenue, NW, Suite 1001 Washington, DC 20005 (202) 682-4140 / Fax: (202) 682-3984 ncpea@erols.com

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

THIS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS results of a survey conducted by the National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators (NAAPSA) for the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA). The study was conducted in 2000 and included responses from all 50 states plus the District of Columbia and Guam.¹ The study involved a total of 60 questions. Only one state (Texas) was able to provide responses for all the information requested.

Adult Protective Services

"ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES (APS) are those services provided to older people and people with disabilities who are in danger of being mistreated or neglected, are unable to protect themselves, and have no one to assist them" (NAAPSA, May 2001, p. 1). In most states, APS programs are the first responders to reports of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of vulnerable adults. A vulnerable adult is defined as a person who is either being mistreated or in danger of mistreatment and who, due to age and/or disability, is unable to protect him/herself. Though most APS programs serve vulnerable adults regardless of age, some serve only older persons (based either on their age or incapacity). A few programs serve only adults ages 18-59 who have disabilities that keep them from protecting themselves. Interventions provided by APS include, but are not limited to, the following: receiving reports ² of adult abuse, neglect, or exploitation; investigating these reports; assessing risk; developing and implementing case plans, service monitoring, and evaluation. Further, Adult Protection may provide or arrange for a wide selection of medical, social, economic, legal, housing, law enforcement, or other protective emergency or supportive services (NAAPSA, May 2001).

Statutory and Program Information

WITH DATA FROM 53 RESPONDENTS, most APS programs had statutory and program coverage that included both younger and older adults (68.5% with statutes and 63.0% with programs). With data from all 54 respondents, the state administering body responsible for its elder/adult services program

was most typically administratively under the state human services agency and separate from the state unit on aging (SUA) (54.0%). Forty percent (40.0%) of programs were administratively under the SUA, while 6% had their administrative structures located in other agencies.

Investigatory Authority

OVER HALF OF APS PROGRAMS investigated in all settings. For those programs lacking the authority to investigate in all settings, all were authorized to investigate in domestic settings (100.0%), and over half investigated in institutional settings (68.5%). Approximately sixty-five percent (64.8%) investigated in mental health/mental retardation settings.

Reporters of Elder/Adult Abuse

WITH DATA FROM 54 RESPONDENTS, some form of reporting laws existed for all 54 respondents. The majority of states and territories named health care professionals, such as licensed and registered nurses, physicians, and nurse aids, as mandated reporters of elder/adult abuse. According to 46 respondents, reporting provisions were most typically first enacted in 1983.

Failure to Report Abuse

THIRTY FOUR (34) STATES (63.0%) specified time frames under which reports of abuse were expected to comply, which ranged from immediately (23 states/67.6%) to more than four (4) days (1 state/ 1.9%). The most common penalty for failure to report abuse was a misdemeanor with a possible fine and/or jail sentence (45.2%) (n=19). Financial penalties for failure to report ranged from a low of \$100 to a high of \$10,000. Regarding criminal penalties, nine (9) states had prosecuted someone for failure to report abuse.

Total Number of Reports Received

BASED ON FIGURES FROM 54 STATES, the total number of reports received was 472,813 elder/adult abuse reports for the most recent year for which data were available. State report totals ranged from a low of 108 reports to a high of 70,424 reports. From 32 respondents, complainants were family members (13.7%), followed by health care professionals (11.1%) and social service agency staff (10.0%).

Total Number of Reports Investigated

WITH INFORMATION FROM 49 RESPONDENTS, workers in APS programs investigated a total of 396,398 elder/adult abuse reports in the most

recent year for which data were available. Information provided above regarding number of reports received was not provided by the same states or as many states. Thus, the number of substantiated reports is not a subset of the number of received reports.

Total Number of Reports Substantiated

STATE RESPONDENTS (42) INDICATED that 166,019 reports were substantiated³ for the most recent year for which data were available, for a 48.5% overall substantiation rate. In this case, the number of substantiated reports is a subset of the number of the investigated reports indicated above. The 29 state respondents able to provide breakouts of substantiated reports by age identified a total of 40,156 substantiated reports of adults between 18-59 years of age, and 101,057 reports for individuals aged 60 and over.

Allegations Substantiated by Category

FROM INFORMATION FROM 40 STATES, the most frequently occurring substantiated allegation of maltreatment involved self-neglect (41.9%), followed by physical abuse (20.1%) and caregiver neglect/ abandonment (13.2%), for a total 169,946 multiple, substantiated allegations of maltreatment.

The Victims in the Reports

CONSISTENT WITH EARLIER STUDIES, 29 respondents indicated that victims in substantiated reports were predominately women (56.0%). From 24 respondents, more than half of the victims involved persons of Caucasian origin (65.8%), followed by African Americans (17.4%). From 15 respondents, for substantiated reports that excluded self-neglect, approximately half of abused older adults were 80 years of age and older (46.5%). In comparison, for substantiated cases of self-neglect (i.e., using 5 year increments from ages 60-85+), approximately a third (33.6%) involved persons 80 years of age and older.

When 21 respondents provided the same information under broader categories (e.g., persons 60+, 65+, and 18-59), persons 60+ were the victims of approximately sixty percent (59.3%) of reports excluding self-neglect and of sixty-three (63.0%) of self-neglect cases.

Reports/Investigations by Setting

FROM THE 38 RESPONDENTS who provided data, the majority of tracked APS reports (60.7%) involved domestic settings. Less than one in ten (8.3%) reports occurred in institutional settings. Twenty-three percent of

reports (23.3%) were not tracked by specific setting, and thus were categorized under the heading of "all settings."

For substantiated reports, the most common location (42.5%) of abuse was in domestic settings (24 respondents. The "all settings" category accounted for 42.1% of the substantiated reports, with institutional and mental health settings substantiated in 8.5% and 2.4% of reports respectively.

The Perpetrators in the Reports

CONSISTENT WITH EARLIER STUDIES, perpetrators in substantiated reports (17 respondents) were most typically males (52.0%) between the ages of 36 and 50 (24.8%). Typically, from 25 respondents, perpetrators were family members (e.g., spouse, parents, children, grandchildren, siblings, and other family members) (61.7%), and in particular, spouses/intimate partners (30.2%). The second largest category of perpetrator in substantiated reports was that of adult child (17.6%). The perpetrator was facility/institutional staff in 4.4% of substantiated reports.

Abuse Registry/Database

TWENTY-ONE (21) STATES (38.9%) indicated that they maintained registries on perpetrators in substantiated cases, and slightly more than half (51.9%) did not maintain a central abuse registry (49 states).

Service Delivery and Outcomes

STATE RESPONDENTS (22) INDICATED THAT, on average, cases were kept open for 80.5 days. When APS services were offered, clients refused them in eleven percent (11%) of investigations (23 respondents). APS initiated court interventions or legal actions for the protection of victims/ clients in seven percent (7.0%) of cases (24 respondents). From 47 respondents, the most common category included in case closure options was that of death of the client (74.1%) or the client's refusal of further services (74.1%).

Funding and Administration

WITH INFORMATION FROM 30 STATE RESPONDENTS, the average expenditure for an APS program was \$7,084,358. With 13 states responding, state respondents reported receiving an average of 2,987,648 from the Social Services Block Grant. Twenty-five (25) state respondents indicated receiving an average of \$4,607,112 from state and local funding sources. No state respondents reported receiving funding from private grants or other organizations.

Conclusion

ONLY ONE STATE (TEXAS) was able to provide information to all questions on the survey. Only 16 states were able to provide 85% or more of answers to the survey questions. In order to provide accurate information about abuse, neglect, and exploitation of vulnerable and/or older adults, APS programs should have the resources necessary to provide accurate state data, essential for ensuring both the freedom and safety of vulnerable and older adults.

Notes

- 1. References to "state respondents" include the District of Columbia and Guam.
- 2. The term "report" will be used throughout the document and also means complaints.
- 3. The term "substantiated" will be used throughout this and also means reports confirmed or validated.

DEDICATION

THIS REPORT IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY of Rosalie S. Wolf, Ph. D., (1927 – 2001). Rosalie was a member of the National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators (NAAPSA) committee that developed the 2000 Survey of States and would have produced the final report, but for her death on June 26th. Called the "mother of the elder abuse field" and a "model of quiet competence and boundless hope," Rosalie never seemed aware of the value she held for others, or of her own worth. Yet her passion, integrity, commitment, and productivity were truly remarkable. When one considers the incredible humility and deep compassion that accompanied those traits, her character rises to the level of legend.

Rosalie was a pioneer in the field of elder/adult protection. For example, in 1980, before many state Adult Protective Services (APS) programs were even conceived, much less in their infancy, she led for the Administration on Aging (AoA) the evaluation of the very first demonstration projects on elder abuse interventions. In 1985, Toshio Tatara, then Director of Research and Evaluation for the American Public Welfare Association, introduced her to the annual APS conference in Texas. By the next year, she was using the networking opportunity presented by the conference to found the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, of which she was President. This organization later became a partner in the National Center on Elder Abuse.

She founded the *Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect* in 1989. It remains the only scholarly publication on elder abuse and neglect in the United States. She went on to form the International Network on the Prevention of Elder Abuse, which she chaired until her death. She was active with the American Society on Aging and the Gerontological Society of America, tirelessly working to include and expand the role of elder abuse on their agendas.

A colleague remarked that Rosalie "moved nations into action about elder abuse issues." She was a member of the World Health Organization's Consulting Group for the World Report on Violence and the steering committee of the United Nations Working Group on Trauma. In 2000, she

co-edited a special edition of *Generations*, a quarterly publication of the American Society on Aging, which was devoted to elder abuse and neglect.

She advised the U.S. Department of Justice, the Department of Health and Human Services, the National Institute on Aging, and the National Academy of Sciences. She was director of the Institute on Aging at UMass Memorial Health Care in Worcester, MA and an assistant professor in the Department of Medicine and Family Practice at UMass Medical School.

Most importantly, she advised any and all who came to her for information and consultation. She was a living, breathing data bank on elder abuse, and no one ever needed a password to gain access. The many professionals she mentored are scattered around the planet.

Rosalie Wolf did not want to fade away, and she will not. Though we have lost the light of her physical presence, we have not lost its effects. Her leadership lives on in the body of work she amassed and the worldwide network she created. May her spirit continue to guide us.

Paula M. Mixson November, 2002

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Adult Protective Services Cases	1
Introduction3Definition of Adult Protective Services3Background4Attempts at a Nationwide Picture4	3
Purpose	3
Methods9Sample9Procedure9Data Collection Instrument10Study Limitations10)
Statutory and Program Information	3 4 5 3 9
Investigatory Requirements)
Reports Received, Reports Investigated, and Reports Substantiated	ľ

Total Number of Reports Investigated	. 23
Total Number of Reports Substantiated	. 24
Substantiated Reports by Age Categories	. 26
Allegations Substantiated by Category	. 27
The Victims in the Reports	. 28
Gender	. 28
Race/Ethnicity of Victims	. 29
Age of Victims	. 30
Reports/Investigations by Setting	. 31
The Perpetrators in the Reports	. 33
Gender	
Age of Perpetrators	
Perpetrators' Relationship to Victims	. 34
Abuse Registry/Database	. 35
Service Delivery and Outcomes	. 35
Length of Open Case	. 35
Refusal of Services	. 36
Court Interventions or Legal Actions	. 36
Case Closure	. 36
Funding and Administration	. 37
Total APS Program Expenditures	. 37
Sources of Federal Funding	. 37
Sources of Funding From State/Local and	0
Private Grants/Donations	. 38
Conclusions and Recommendations	. 39
References	. 45
Appendix	4.7
State Data Breakouts for Tables and Charts	
	, .

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES CASES

(Note: Names are changed in order to protect confidentiality.)

RUBY was a 71 year old widow who lived with her son Wayne. A neighbor stated that her friend Ruby seemed more and more depressed as time went by. In a recent conversation between the two women, Ruby told her friend that, at night, after she was in bed, Wayne sat next to her bed and read to her. After turning out the light, he slipped his hand under the bed covers and into her pants. Then, he fondled her private parts for nearly half an hour, and the time was increasing both in duration and in frequency. When Ruby told the story to her neighbor, both women cried.

GLENDA, age 83, was admitted to the hospital with a ruptured left eye due to untreated glaucoma. Her hair was matted, and her clothes were soiled. She had sores on her legs. Her toenails were so long that they curved over and under her feet. Glenda lived with a daughter who had a history of mental illness. Their home was infested with roaches and cluttered with trash both inside and out.

MARION was a 53-year-old woman with developmental disabilities who had lived with her brother Hank since her parents died. She had been physically abused by Hank for several years but thought that if she told anyone she would have no place to live. She was also financially exploited by Hank, who was the payee for her Social Security check and used that money to support his drinking habit.

HARRY, age 72, was hospitalized due to the amputation of his leg. He signed over a power of attorney to his son, John. John did not have a job nor did his wife. Harry had an estate of \$400,000, plenty of money to support all of them. The son and his wife moved in and took over including remodeling the house and spending significant amounts of money on luxury items. Though they said they

remodeled a bathroom for Harry, the bathroom was not wheel chair accessible and no ramps were built to enable Harry to come and go from the house. Harry was very capable of making his own decisions but was told who he could see and was never included in making decisions about how his money was to be spent. Kept hostage in his own home, he never telephoned anyone because his son and daughter-in-law would listen in on the conversation and then yell at him. Other family members were told that they could not visit Harry unless they made prior arrangements with John, who summarily denied all of them contact.

INTRODUCTION

DESPITE THE FACT THAT the phenomenon of elder abuse has always existed, as with child abuse and woman battering, we know very little about it. The little we do know is gleaned primarily from small studies or through anecdotal information. Because of confidentiality protections, data are often difficult to ascertain, and, when permission is granted for its use, data vary significantly from state to state due to statutory guidelines regarding investigatory authority and reporting requirements. Though records are highly protected, one of the primary sources of data on vulnerable adult abuse is Adult Protective Services (APS), the agency of first response in most states when abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation of a vulnerable adult are suspected.

Regrettably, the cases of Ruby, Glenda, Helen, Marion, Harry, and others like them occur more frequently than we might guess, and, if they are addressed at all, are often provided limited resources to deal with egregious problems. The effects of elder abuse are real and powerful, particularly as they affect an older or vulnerable adult individual who is its unwitting victim. Bearing in mind the story of Ruby and the other vulnerable adults who are victims of abuse, neglect, and exploitation, we present the findings of the 2000 Survey of State Adult Protective Services.

Definition of Adult Protective Services

"ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES (APS) are those services provided to older people and people with disabilities who are in danger of being mistreated or neglected, are unable to protect themselves, and have no one to assist them" (NAAPSA, May 2001, p. 1). Because there were no federal statutes or funding directly related to the delivery of APS, each state developed its own system for service delivery. In every state, Adult Protective Services programs are usually the first responders to reports of abuse, exploitation and neglect of vulnerable adults. A vulnerable adult is defined as a person who is either being mistreated or in danger of mistreatment and who, due to age and/or disability, is unable to protect him/herself. Though most APS programs serve vulnerable adults regardless of age, some serve only older persons (based either on their age or incapacity). A few

programs serve only adults ages 18-59 who have disabilities that keep them from protecting themselves. Interventions provided by APS include, but are not limited to, the following: receiving reports ⁴ of adult abuse, neglect, or exploitation; investigating these reports; assessing risk; developing and implementing case plans, service monitoring, and evaluation. Further, Adult Protection may provide or arrange for a wide selection of medical, social, economic, legal, housing, law enforcement, or other protective emergency or supportive services (NAAPSA, May 2001).

Background

STATES' PROVISION OF ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES emerged from government's concern for adults who could not manage their own affairs (Mathaisen, 1973; Quinn & Tomita, 1997; Regan, 1978; Regan & Springer, 1977). Protective services were funded in 1975 under Title XX of the Social Security Act. The title required funded protective services for all adults 18 years of age and older without regard to income (Quinn & Tomita, 1997). Emphasis was placed on persons found in situations that included abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Under this federal mandate, states authorized APS units in their local social service agencies, either through statutes or regulations. Many programs included mandatory reporting laws (Salend et al., 1984), modeled after child abuse reporting legislation, as well as involuntary interventions (Regan, 1981), such as emergency orders, and civil commitments (Schmidt, 1995).

In 1987, the federal government first described elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation under the Amendments to the Older Americans Act. Abuse is categorized as domestic abuse and institutional abuse. Within these broad categories, physical, sexual, emotional/psychological abuse may occur, along with neglect, self-neglect, abandonment, and financial exploitation (NCPEA, 2002). The abuse of vulnerable adults is projected to rise, for a number of reasons, including changes in family patterns, caregiving at a distance, greater numbers of older adults who are living longer, people who are living longer with chronic illness, including HIV, who are living longer, and the increased longevity of persons with developmental disabilities (Teaster, in press).

Attempts at a Nationwide Picture

THE FIRST ATTEMPT TO PRODUCE a national picture of elder abuse in domestic settings was undertaken by Dr. Toshio Tatara of the American Human Services Association (formerly American Public Welfare Association). This pioneering work was conducted under the auspices of

the National Aging Resource Center on Elder Abuse (NARCEA), which was funded by the Administration on Aging. Because, as Dr. Tatara acknowledged, "data collection on elder abuse [was] still in the beginning stages in most states," there were great variations in the ways that states defined abuse as well as in the ways they collected, maintained, and reported data. Although he collected and published information for 1983, 1984, and 1985, there was insufficient information to draw a clear, national picture of elder abuse and, Tatara recognized that, because of the limitations of the data, "it was not possible to support or deny the contention that elder abuse is on the increase" (Tatara, 1986, p. vi).

In spite of these challenges, under his direction, NARCEA continued to collect information from protective services programs and to publish a summary of national data. Those summaries revealed an estimated 117,000 reports of domestic elder abuse in 1986 and 128,000 reports in 1987. Similar surveys conducted in 1993-1996 showed an increase of domestic elder abuse reports each year. The most recent analysis in the series covered the 1996 program year and reflected an estimated 293,000 reports of domestic elder abuse nationwide (Tatara & Kuzmeskus, 1997).

In 1998, the newly reconstituted and renamed National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) proposed to complete another study of state reporting data. The National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators (NAAPSA), a NCEA partner, assumed leadership for the study. A research study committee was formed comprising representatives from NAAPSA and the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (NCPEA), also a partner in the NCEA. The committee set out to design a survey instrument that could overcome some of the challenges identified by Tatara in previous studies (Tatara, 1986; Tatara & Kuzmeskus, 1997).

The committee recommended that the survey not be limited to abuse, neglect, and exploitation in domestic settings but also include reports of abuse in any place or facility in which APS workers conduct investigations. It was also recommended that, in addition to information on older adults, the survey include abuse reports involving vulnerable younger adults as well. Previous surveys had not included this population, because the focus of NARCEA was exclusively on elder abuse/older persons as well as adults with disabilities. Although most APS programs serve vulnerable younger adults as well as older persons, the committee wanted to gather information on the entire population receiving adult protective services.

After numerous iterations, the survey was mailed out to all state APS administrators in March 2000. The National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA), the lead agency for the NCEA, assumed responsibility for developing a computerized version of the survey, which was available for completion at the same time the hard copy of the survey was mailed to respondents. Completed survey forms were received from all the 50 states, Guam, and the District of Columbia.⁵

Notes

- 4 The term "report" will be used throughout the document and also means complaints.
- 5 References in the report to "states" include Washington, D. C., and Guam, based on their responses.

PURPOSE

THE PURPOSE OF THE 2000 SURVEY of adult protective services was to obtain the most recent and accurate information available from states and territories on elder/adult protective services. The survey departed from earlier surveys in that it included data on younger and older vulnerable adults, in both domestic and institutional settings, on adult protective statutory and program information, investigatory authority, reporting requirements, complaints reported, categories of mistreatment, investigations, victims, perpetrators, and service delivery and outcomes, and funding and administration systems.

Information is provided in this report to assist researchers, program personnel, and policy makers in understanding the issues surrounding planning, program management, media inquiries, and resource allocation. The report provides the most current national statistics available concerning the abuse of vulnerable adults. In doing so, this report also allows a more accurate understanding of the scope of the problem than earlier reports.

METHOD

Sample

THE SAMPLE FOR THIS STUDY included APS administrators in all 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia and Guam. Both Louisiana (e.g., LA1, LA2) and Oregon (e.g., OR1, OR2) have two separate protective services offices, one for protective services to vulnerable disabled adults and one for elder abuse victims. Both offices submitted reporting data on abuse, bringing the total number of respondents to 54.

Procedure

IN 1999, NAAPSA FORMED the Research Committee for this study. The Committee was chaired by Paula Mixson, Texas Adult Protective Services, and included other NAAPSA representatives. The Research Committee developed the data collection survey form, determined the specific data to be collected, and identified the state contacts needed to complete the survey. The NAAPSA Board of Directors assisted by reviewing and commenting on drafts of the survey instrument. For ease of completion, the survey was designed to be completed and returned by mail, fax, or by Internet submittal. Workplace Automation Solutions, consultant to NASUA, designed the online survey: Paula Mixson and Sara Aravanis, Director, National Center on Elder Abuse, provided consultation on web development. Data were collected from March – August 2000, with a 100% response rate. Data from hand-written surveys were keyed into the electronic database by NASUA staff. The Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services conducted preliminary statistical analyses. Rosalie Wolf, Ph.D., Principle Investigator (PI) and President of NCPEA, agreed to conduct final data analysis and draft the final report. Unfortunately, she did not complete the analysis and draft report due to her death in late June 2001.

Following the death of Dr. Wolf, Pamela B. Teaster, Ph.D., NCPEA Vice President, assumed the responsibility of PI for the project. Tyler Dugar, a candidate in the Ph.D. Program in Gerontology at the University of Kentucky, also assisted with the draft report. Georgia Anetzberger, Ph.D., NCPEA Board, Consultant, and formerly of the Benjamin Rose Institute; and Karen A. Roberto, Ph.D., Professor and Director, Center for

Gerontology, Virginia Tech; also consulted on the project. The Research Committee, comprising representatives of NAAPSA, NASUA, and NCPEA, conducted data checks for accuracy, provided consultation regarding the intent of survey questions, and reviewed report drafts.

Data Collection Instrument

THE DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENT consisted of 60 items for completion and relied on states' independent data collection, that is, at their discretion, states provided information based on their own records for the most recent year for which data were accurate and available. The survey included the following categories: program year, respondent information, statutory information, program information, investigatory authority, reporting, complaints reported, categories of mistreatment, investigations, number and percentage of victims in substantiated/confirmed/validated reports by gender, ethnicity, and age; number and percent of total perpetrators in substantiated/confirmed/validated reports by gender and relationship to victim, service delivery and outcomes, and funding and administration.

Although most questions on the survey required primarily quantitative information, respondents also had the opportunity to add response categories and to explain or elaborate on their responses. Respondents could provide qualitative information under nine sections: program information, investigatory authority, reporting, complaints reported, categories of mistreatment, investigations, number and percent of total perpetrators in substantiated/confirmed/validated reports by gender and relationships to victim, service delivery and outcomes, and funding and administration. A copy of the survey instrument is on the Web at www.elderabusecenter.org.

Study Limitations

THERE ARE SEVERAL LIMITATIONS to the data collected. First, the 100% response rate does not apply to every question. Texas was the only state that provided an answer for every question. Only sixteen (16) states were able to answer 85% or more of the survey questions. Second, the reporting year differs from state to state. As a best effort, states provided data for the most recent reporting year that data were available. Third, different state APS structures and definitions confounded the reporting capacity for many states (e.g., different agencies collected different types of data).

FINDINGS

THIS SECTION PROVIDES INFORMATION gleaned from data provided by the 54 survey respondents (e.g., 50 states, District of Columbia, Guam, and the two separate protective services offices in Louisiana and Oregon). We stress that, although the presentation of the data reflects information in the aggregate, each report of abuse, neglect, and exploitation also reflects a significant, and often life-threatening, impact on a single and vulnerable adult.

Statutory and Program Information

- What type of protective statute does your state have? (53 respondents)
- If you have an elder and/or adult protective statute, what was the effective year of its most recent amendment? (54 respondents)
- What type of protective program does your state have? (53 respondents)
- If you have an elder and/or adult protective statute, what was the effective year of its most recent amendment? (54 respondents)

States were asked to provide information about the populations protected by state statutes in order to reflect the specific statutory language describing the specific protected population (e.g., elder only, adult only, elder and younger adults, no statute) as well as the effective date of its most recent statutory amendment. The survey question sought to clarify if the statute protected only elderly persons; both elderly and younger persons; couched protection in terms of adults, (e.g., vulnerable adults, or adults with disabilities only); or capture if the statute existed at all.

Additionally, states were asked to provide information about the nature of their program (e.g., elder only, adult only, elder and younger adults, no program) and the date of program establishment. The survey question on programs mirrored the statutory question above, but phrased it in terms of states' programs rather than enabling statutes. This survey question sought to clarify if the program protected only elderly persons; both elderly and younger persons; couched protection in terms of adults, (e.g., vulnerable adults, or adults with disabilities only); or capture if the program existed at all.

Understanding the meaning of the "adults only" responses is not possible without examining the responding states' definitions of the populations served as well as the administrative locus of the programs providing the services. In one state, "adult only" might be restricted to a specific age range, (e.g., 18-64). In another, "adult" might apply to any person who meets the statutory criteria for eligibility for protection, (e.g., vulnerability or disability, regardless of the person's age), and therefore, encompass a specific population of elderly and/or vulnerable persons.

As stated earlier, in two of the responding states, Louisiana and Oregon, the responsibility for protective services for older and younger adults was divided between different entities in the state. Thirty-seven (37) states had a statute that included both younger and older adults. Similarly, 34 states had a program covering both younger and older adults.

Table 1:	States with Protective Services Statutes and/or Protective
	Services Programs

Category	Statute			Program	
	n	%	n	%	
Elder only	8	14.8	8	14.8	
Adult only	8	14.8	11	20.4	
Younger & Elder Adults	37	68.5	34	63.0	

See Appendix A, Table 1, for state breakouts.

Number of states responding to this survey question: 53

The states with an elder and/or adult protective statute provided information about the effective date of their most recent amendments (54 states) and when their programs were established (54 states). Responses ranged from 1981 to 2000, with the modal response as 1999, and the mean response as 1996. Program development took place from 1971 to 1999, with the modal response as 1981, and the mean response as 1982.

Statutorily Authorized Populations Served By APS

• What populations of adults are served under your elder/adult protective statute? (54 respondents)

Fifty-four (54) states provided data regarding the populations they were authorized to serve under their elder/adult protective statute (Table 2).

States provided multiple responses. Thirty-three (33) states (61.1%) reported serving vulnerable or disabled adults of all ages, which included elderly victims, and 38.9% reported serving adults between 18-65 years of age. Over a third of the states (35.2%) served adults 60 years of age and older, while approximately a fifth (20.4%) reported serving those 65 years and older. Other populations served included dependent adults 18-64, adults with a physical or mental dysfunction, any resident of a nursing facility, and adults with mental retardation.

Populations Served	States	%
Adults 60+	19	35.2
Adults 65+	11	20.4
Vulnerable/Impaired Adults 6o+	8	14.8
Vulnerable/Impaired Adults 65+	8	14.8
Vulnerable/Disabled Adults 18-65	21	38.9
Vulnerable/Disabled Adults, All Ages	33	61.1
Other	4	7.4
See Appendix A, Table 2, for state bred Note: Multiple responses were given b Number of states responding to this su	y several states	

Program Administration

• What is the state administrative agency for the elder/adult protective services program? (54 respondents)

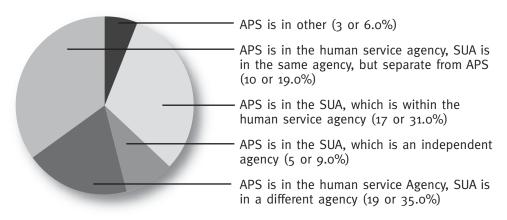
Respondents were asked to identify the state body administratively responsible for their elder/adult protective services program (Chart 1). For 19 states, the APS program was in a division of the state human service agency, while the SUA was an entirely different agency or was located in an entirely different agency. For 10 states, both APS and the SUA were separate divisions of the same state human service agency. Summing these two, for 29 states (54%), APS programs were administratively under a state human service agency and separate from the SUA.

The other predominate administrative structure for elder/adult protective services was a SUA located within the state's human service agency. In 17 states, APS was part of an SUA located within the human services agency. In five states (9%) APS was part of an SUA that was an independent

agency. Summing these two, for 22 states (40%), APS programs were administratively under the SUA.

Three states (6%) indicated that their APS programs had their administrative structure in other agencies. The APS program in Kansas was located in the state public welfare agency. Minnesota had its APS program in the Family Independence Agency, and Texas was in a human services agency under the umbrella of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission and independent of the Texas Department of Human Services and the SUA.

Chart 1. Structure of the State Administrative Agency for Elder/Adult Protective Services



Number of states responding to this survey question: 54

Investigatory Authority

- Is the responsibility for all elder/adult protection (e.g., domestic and institutional) in your state vested in one program? (54 respondents)
- If the responsibility for all elder/adult protection (e.g., domestic and institutional) in your state is not vested in one program, in what settings does it have authority?(54 respondents)
- If the responsibility for any setting (listed provided in the question above) does not lie with your program, please identify the program/agency that is responsible for each. (13 respondents, domestic settings; 29 respondents, institutional settings; 28 respondents, mental health/mental retardation)

In some states, adult protection had responsibility for providing services to elderly and/or disabled victims of abuse regardless of whether the victims resided at home (domestic) or in some sort of facility (institution). Thirty-one (31) out of fifty-four (54) respondents (57.4%) had the responsibility for all elder/adult protection (e.g., institutional and domestic) vested in one program.

All (100.0%) of the respondents to this survey had the authority to provide protective services to victims living in their own homes (domestic settings). Thirty-seven (37) states (68.5%) had the authority to provide protective services in institutional settings such as nursing homes. Thirty-five (35) states (64.8%) had authority for elder/adult protection in mental health/mental retardation settings (Table 3). For states in which the responsibility for any setting did not lie with the APS program, domestic settings were handled by such agencies as the services division for the mentally ill, institutional settings were handled by agencies such as the department of health or the ombudsman, and mental/health/mental retardation settings were handled by agencies such as departments of mental health.

Table 3. Scope of Investigatory Authority				
Location	Number	%		
All settings	31	57.4		
Domestic settings	54	100.0		
Institutional settings	37	68.5		
Mental health/mental retardation settings	35	64.8		
Other	37	68.5		

See Appendix A, Table 3, for state breakouts

Note: Multiple responses were given by several states.

If states marked "all settings," all listed settings were included.

Number of states responding to this survey question: 54

Reporters of Elder/Adult Abuse

- Does your state have an elderly/adult abuse reporting law? (54 respondents)
- Who is mandated to report? (see Table 4 for individual state responses)
- In what year were the first reporting provisions enacted? (46 respondents)

All 54 respondents had an elder/adult abuse reporting law. In other words, all adult protection programs took reports—either by phone or in person—of adult/elder abuse, exploitation and neglect. Respondents specified who was required or encouraged to report incidents of elder/adult abuse

(Table 4). Five (5) states did not list anyone as a mandatory reporter (CO, DE, NY, SD, and WI). The majority of states and territories named health care professionals, such as licensed and registered nurses, physicians, and nurse aides, as mandated reporters of elder/adult abuse. Law enforcement officers, psychologists, dentists, social workers, and psychologists were also named by at least half of the states as mandated reporters. Only one state (Maryland) specified the victim as a mandated reporter, and no states specified friends and neighbors as mandated reporters, although 16 states mandated reporting by "Any Person." A number of states encouraged but did not mandate public employees, attorneys, clergy members, public officials, bankers, and animal control workers to report.

Forty-six (46) respondents answered a question concerning the year reporting provisions were first enacted. They indicated that reporting provisions were first enacted between 1974 and 1999. The mean year was 1983, and the modal year was 1981.

Individual Mandated Encourage							
	n	%	n	%			
Licensed Nurses	31	57.4	6	11.1			
Physicians	31	57.4	5	9.3			
Health Care Professionals	30	55.6	6	11.1			
Law Enforcement Officers	30	55.6	6	11.1			
Psychologists	30	55.6	6	11.1			
Social Workers	30	55.6	6	11.1			
Home Health Personnel	29	53.7	7	13.0			
Registered Nurses	29	53.7	6	11.1			
Dentists	29	53.7	5	9.3			
Nursing Home Staff	28	51.9	8	14.8			
Mental Health Workers	27	50.0	8	14.8			
Nurse Aides	27	50.0	8	14.8			
Human Services Agency Staff	25	46.3	9	16.7			
Pharmacist	21	38.9	12	22.2			
Long-Term Care Ombudsman	21	38.9	11	20.4			
Coroners	20	37.0	13	24.1			
Area Agencies on Aging	19	35.2	11	20.4			
EMT/Firefighters	18	33.3	13	24.1			
Any Person	16	29.6	33	61.1			
Other	16	29.6	9	16.7			
Public Employees	11	20.4	21	38.9			
Attorneys	8	14.8	21	38.9			
Clergy	7	13.0	22	40.7			
Public Officials	4	7.4	24	44.4			
Bankers	2	3.7	26	48.1			
Animal Control	2	3.7	25	46.3			
Family Members	1	1.9	28	51.9			
Self/Victim	1	1.9	26	48.1			
Friends/Neighbors	0	0.0	28	51.9			

Note: Multiple responses were given by several states Number of states responding to this survey question: 53

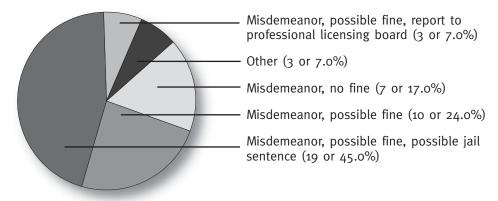
Failure to Report Abuse

Sanctions for Failure to Report Abuse

- Does your state law specify a consequence for failure of mandatory reporters to report abuse? (53 respondents)
- What is your state's penalty for failure to report? (42 respondents)
- What is your state's financial penalty for failure to report? (38 respondents)

Eleven (11) states (20.4%) reported that there were no statutory consequences for failure of mandated reporters to report abuse, compared to 42 states (77.8%) with a specified consequence. The most common consequences for failure to report are summarized in Chart 2. The most common consequence was a misdemeanor with a possible fine and/or jail sentence (45.2%). Failure to report incurred a misdemeanor with a possible fine in 23.8% of states, a misdemeanor with no fine in 17% of states, and a misdemeanor with a possible fine and report to professional licensing board in 7.0% of states.

Chart 3. Sanctions



Number of states responding to this survey question: 42

The 38 states indicating a financial sanction revealed diverse penalties, ranging from \$100 to \$10,000. For example, Virginia had a progressive system in which the first offense was \$500 and additional offenses were \$1000. Minnesota held offending parties liable for damages from a failure to report, with a penalty of \$1000. For states that imposed jail terms for individuals who failed to report adult/elder abuse, incarceration times ranged from ten days to one year, in addition to fines between \$100 and \$5000.

Timeframes for Failure to Report Abuse

- If your state law has a reporting provision, does the law specify how quickly or indicate time frames within which reporters are to report? (53 respondents)
- If your state has a reporting provision, what is the time frame in which the report must be made?(34 respondents)

Thirty-four (34) states (63.0%) specified time frames under which reporters of adult/elder abuse were expected to comply. Nineteen (35.2%) states had no time frame. Of those states that specifying a response time, requirements varied from immediately (23 states/67.6%) to more than four days (1 state/1.9%).

Prosecution Rates for Failure to Report Abuse

• Has anyone ever been prosecuted for failure to report? (52 respondents)

Regarding prosecution rates for failure to report abuse, only 9 states (16.7%) had prosecuted someone for failure to report abuse. Twenty-three states (42.6%) had yet to prosecute anyone, and 20 states (37.0%) did not know if any cases were prosecuted.

Investigatory Requirements

Time Frames for Beginning an Investigation

- Does your program have rules/policies/regulations regarding the time frame for beginning an investigation after a report has been received? (52 respondents)
- Specify the time frames, in hours, for reports/complaints that are judged to be emergencies. (40 respondents)

Fifty-two (52) states (96.3%) indicated that their program had rules/policies or regulations regarding the time frame for beginning an investigation after receiving a complaint. Forty (40) states (74.1%) had time frames for responses to emergency cases, ranging from immediately to 48 hours (Table 5).

Table 5. Time Frame for Emergency Reports			
Time Frame (Hours)	States	% of Responding States	
o (Immediately)	13	32.5	
1	1	2.5	
2	2	5.0	
3	1	2.5	
5	1	2.5	
24	20	50.0	
48	2	5.0	
Total	40	100.0	

See Appendix A, Table 5, for state breakouts.

Number of states responding to this survey question: 40

Length of Investigation

- What policies/rules/regulations does your program have regarding the maximum length (in days) of an investigation? (47 respondents)
- What is the average length of an investigation in your program?(27 respondents)

With 47 states responding, states' responses regarding maximum length of an investigation ranged from 15 states with no policy to one state (Washington) indicating 120 days (Table 6). Following "no policy," a maximum investigation period of 30 days was the most common response (14 states). The average length for the investigation policy was twenty-nine (29) days. With 27 states responding, the average length of an investigation was 29 days.

Table 6. Maximum Investigation Length Policy		
Time Frame (Days)	Respondents	
No Policy	15	
10	2	
14	1	
30	14	
45	4	
60	8	
90	2	
120	1	
Total	47	

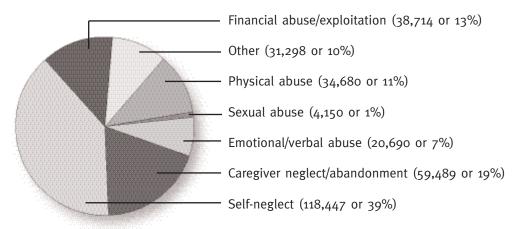
See Appendix A, Table 6, for state breakouts. Number of states responding to this survey question: 47

Categories of Alleged Mistreatment Investigated by APS

• What categories of alleged mistreatment does your elder/adult protective program investigate? Enter number in each category (44 respondents)

Forty-four (44) of respondents (79.6%) provided data for elder/adult abuse categories of mistreatment (Chart 3). The largest category was self-neglect, which made up 118,447 (39.0%) of allegations investigated. Caregiver neglect/abandonment made up 59,489 (19.0%) of cases, financial abuse/exploitation 38,714 (13.0%), physical abuse 34,680 (11.0%), emotional/verbal abuse 20,690 (7.0%), and sexual abuse accounted for 4150 (1.0%) of the cases. Another 31,298 cases were reported as "other" (e.g., confinement, isolation, and denial of essential services).

Chart 4. Categories of Allegations of Investigated Mistreatment/Abuse



Note: Multiple categories of allegations may be included in one case. Number of states responding to this survey question: 44

Reports Received, Reports Investigated, and Reports Substantiated

Total Number of Reports Received (54 respondents)

- What is the total of elder/adult abuse reports/complaints received by your program in the most recent year for which data are available? (54 respondents)
- Does the total indicate new reports only, new reports and reports on existing cases, other? (54 respondents)

States were asked to indicate the total of elder/adult reports received by their programs in the most recent year for which data were available. Based on figures from 54 states, the total number of reports received was 472,813. State report totals ranged from a low of 108 reports to a

high of 70,424 reports. Reports received, investigated, and substantiated are presented in Table 8.

The totals above represented new reports (i.e., there was no open case on the alleged victim when the report was received) for 26 (48.1%) of the states, and a combination of new reports and reports on existing cases (i.e., currently open cases in which an additional report was now being made) for 23 (42.6%) states. Five states (9.3%) did not indicate if their reports were either new or new and existing.

Numbers of Reports by Complainant

• What are the sources of elder/adult abuse complaints to your agency? (32 respondents)

States provided information on the sources of elder/adult abuse complaints to their program by category of complainant. These data, provided by 32 respondents, differ from those above both by number of states responding to the question and by nature of the question (i.e., breakout of reports by complainant). Thus, the number of complaints/reports indicated below is not equal to the total number of reports indicated above. Table 7 summarizes the sources of elder abuse reports by type of complainant. Family members initiated the most complaints, or 32,667 (13.7%). Health care professionals, social service agency staff, and law enforcement officers followed closely with 26,544 (11.1%), 24,031 (10.0%), and 22,923 (9.5%), respectively. The victims themselves reported the abuse in 19,023 (8.0%) cases. Area Agencies on Aging, pharmacists, public officials, coroners, EMT/firefighters, psychologists, attorneys, clergy and bankers each represented less than 0.5% of total cases. Other sources of elder/adult abuse complaints included landlords, therapists, advocates, and senior center staff.

Table 7. Sources of Elder/Adult Abuse Complaints to Agencies						
Rank	Source of Complaint/Report	Number of Complaints/Reports	% of Total			
1	Family Members	32,667	13.7			
2	Health Care Professionals	26,544	11.1			
3	Social Service Agency Staff	24,031	10.0			
4	Law-Enforcement Officers	22,923	9.5			
5	Self/Victim	19,023	8.0			
6	Any Person	18,950	7.9			

Rank	Source of Complaint/Report	Number of Complaints/Reports	% of Total
7	Friends/Neighbors	14,708	6.2
8	Anonymous	11,904	5.0
9	Social Workers	7,804	3.3
10	Nursing Home Staff	6,144	2.6
11	Nurses/Nurses Aides	6,098	2.6
12	Public Employees	5,782	2.4
13	Home Health Personnel	5,762	2.4
14	Mental Health Workers	4,095	1.7
15	Physicians	2,301	1.0
16	Paid Caregivers	1,272	0.5
17	Long-Term Care Ombudsma	n 1,235	0.5
18	Area Agencies on Aging	968	0.4
19	Pharmacists	831	0.3
20	Public Officials	609	0.3
21	Coroners	586	0.2
22	EMT/Fire Fighters	403	0.2
23	Psychologists	342	0.1
24	Attorneys	268	0.1
25	Clergy	243	0.1
26	Bankers	215	0.1
	Other	23,418	9.8
	TOTAL	239,126	100.00
Number	of states responding to this sur	vey question: 32	

Total Number of Reports Investigated

• What is the total number of elder/adult protective reports/complaints investigated in your program in the most recent year for which data are available? (49 respondents)

With information from 49 (90.7%) respondents, workers in APS programs investigated a total of 396,398 elder/adult abuse reports in the most recent year for which data were available (Table 8). It is important to note that the information provided regarding number of reports received indicated earlier (e.g., 54 respondents, 472, 813 reports) is not provided by the same states or as many states as the number of substantiated reports and may not reflect the same reporting year. Thus, the number of <u>substantiated</u> reports is not a subset of the number of <u>received</u> reports.

Total Number of Reports Substantiated

• How many of the total number of reports in the reporting period indicated above were substantiated/confirmed/validated? (42 respondents)

With information from 42 (77.8%) respondents, workers in APS programs substantiated 166,019 reports in the most recent year for which data were available (Table 8). It is necessary to note that, here, the number of substantiated reports (e.g., 54 respondents, 472, 813) does represent a subset of the investigated reports (e.g., 49 respondents, 396,398 reports), but fewer states provided the number of substantiated reports than provided the number of investigated reports. We calculated the substantiation rate (48.5%) based only on the 41 states that provided both investigated and substantiated reports. The term *substantiated* report was not defined in the study; states were allowed to use their own discretion in applying this term to their data.

Table 8. Investigated and Substantiated Reports by State					
State	Reports Received	Reports Investigated	Reports Substantiated	Substantiated Rate (%)	
AK	768	534	480	90.0	
AL	5,368	5,368			
AR	2,940	2,940	260	8.8	
AZ	10,017	7,651	4,741	62.0	
CA	70,424	47,921	23,431	48.9	
CO	5,685	5,685	4,548	80.0	
CT	3,479	3,479			
DC	1,628	905	317	35.0	
DE	841	841			
FL	29,408	29,408	649	2.2	
GA	12,000				
GU	211	211	7	3.3	
HI	450	450	213	47.3	
IA	934	934	250	26.8	
ID	2,300	2,300	1,150	50.0	
IL	7,157	6,508	4,103	63.5	
IN	8,765	8,765	8,765	100.0	
KS	4,929	4,929	960	19.5	
KY	28,507	28,507	17,210	60.4	
LA1	3,164	2,887	1,749	60.6	

State	Reports Received	Reports Investigated	Reports Substantiated	Substantiated Rate (%)
LA2	4,470	966	397	41.1
MA	6,025	4,779	2,188	45.8
MD	3,824	3,824	2,158	56.4
ME	2,895	1,616	727	45.0
MI	10,320	9,142		
MN	10,894	2,580		
MO	14,782	13,083	7,036	53.8
MS	1,536	1,536	256	16.7
MT	2,300	2,300		
NC	8,754	8,754	2,101	24.0
NE	2,627	2,118	1,134	53.5
NH	1,428	1,192	673	56.5
NJ	5,681	4,926	3,092	62.8
NM	9,276	4,942	1,454	29.4
NV	3,029	3,029	1,454	48.0
NY	26,630	19,700		
ОН	12,883	12,883	6,944	53.9
OK	13,652	11,383	7,492	65.8
OR1	1,280	1,280	461	36.0
OR2	10,262	10,199	4,262	41.8
PA	9,738	9,738	2,830	29.1
RI	952			
SC	3,771	3,771		
SD	373			
TN	5,844	5,844	3,565	61.0
TX	66,606	63,294	36,296	57.3
UT	2,215	2,215	635	28.7
VA	10,648	10,648	6,330	59.4
VT	1,283	573	43	7.5
WA	10,079	10,079	4,032	40.0
WI	3,073	3,073	1,593	51.8
WV	6,600	6,600		
WY	108	108	33	30.6
TOTAL	472,813	396,398	166,019	48.5

Number of states responding to the survey questions pertaining to this information:

- Reports received (54 respondents)
- Reports investigated (49 respondents)
- Reports substantiated (42 respondents)
- Substantiation rate (41 respondents)

The numbers reflect totals reported by individual states.

Substantiated Reports by Age Categories

• Provide the number of substantiated/confirmed/validated reports by age. (29 respondents)

States were asked to provide specific, individual responses regarding substantiated reports by age category (Table 9). States with the largest number of substantiated reports were California and Texas. For the 29 states able to break out substantiated reports by age category, there was a total of 40,156 substantiated reports for adults age 18-59 years (24 states), and 101,057 substantiated reports for individuals age 60+ (27 states).

Table 9. Substantiated Reports by State and Age Group					
STATE	SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS, AGES 18-59	SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS, AGES 60+			
AR	57	203			
CA	15,890	32,031			
CO	1,364	3,184			
FL	149	500			
GU	4	2			
HI	52	161			
IA	90	160			
IL		4,103			
IN	2,416	6,347			
KY		2,027			
LA1	397	1,749			
MA		2,188			
MD	1,407				
ME	119	603			
MI					
NE	428	706			

STATE	SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS, AGES 18-59	SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS AGES 60+
NH	177	496
NJ	298	2,794
NV		1,454
ОН	518	5,797
OK	2,248	5,224
OR1	417	27
PA		2,830
SD	100	312
TN	600	3,019
TX	13,163	23,131
UT	214	418
VT	20	
WI	8	1,582
WY	20	9
TOTAL	40,156	101,057

Allegations Substantiated by Category

• Categorize the types of maltreatment found in cases substantiated/confirmed/validated by your program (40 respondents)

Table 10 shows the types of allegations that were substantiated by the programs for specific categories of physical abuse, sexual abuse, and emotional/psychological/verbal abuse; caregiver neglect/abandonment; self-neglect; financial abuse/exploitation; and other. The greatest number of cases was those involving self neglect (41.9%), followed by physical abuse (20.1%). Data provided by the forty states indicated that there were 169, 946 multiple, substantiated allegations of maltreatment. Other forms of maltreatment included confinement/isolation and denial of essential services.

Table 10. Types of Substantiated Allegations of Maltreatment Type of Maltreatment **States** # of Allegations % of Allegations Self-Neglect 71,216 31 41.9 Physical Abuse 38 34,261 20.1 Caregiver Neglect 31 22,500 13.2 Financial Exploitation 16,679 9.8 37 Emotional/Verbal Abuse 28 13,689 8.1 Sexual Abuse 0.8 1,288 32 Other 6.1 15 10,313 TOTAL 169,946 100.0

See Appendix A, Table 10, for state breakouts

Note: Includes multiple, substantiated allegations in substantiated cases.

Number of states responding to this survey question: 40

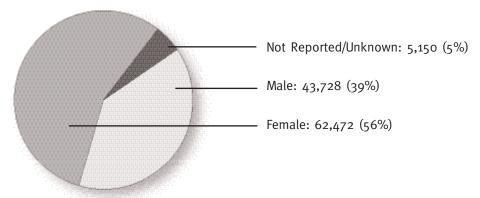
The Victims in the Reports

- What were the genders of victims in the substantiated/confirmed/validated reports in your total of substantiated reports indicated above? (29 respondents)
- What was the race/ethnicity of victims in the substantiated confirmed/ validated reports in your total of substantiated reports indicated above? (24 respondents)

Gender

ACCORDING TO THE 2000 CENSUS, 59.0% of the total United States population was women over the age of 65, and 41% were men aged 65 and over. With data from 29 respondents, the majority of elder abuse victims in substantiated reports were women 62,472 (56.0%) aged 60 and over. Men aged 60 and over represented 43,728 (39.0%) of reports of elder abuse. Five percent 5,150 (5.0%) of reports did not specify gender.

Chart 5. Gender of the Victims



Number of states responding to this survey question: 29

Race/Ethnicity of Victims

ACCORDING TO THE 2000 CENSUS, 84% of the elderly population was non-Hispanic white, 8% were non-Hispanic Black, 5% were Hispanic, and 4% were other. Table 11 shows responses from 24 states that tracked victims' race and ethnicity. Sixty-five percent (65.8%) of the reports involved Caucasians, (17.4%) involved African Americans, and (10.5%) involved Hispanics. Native American and Asian/Pacific Islander represented (0.9%) and (0.4%) of victims, respectively.

Table 11. Race/Ethnicity of Victims						
Race/Ethnicity	States Reporting	# of Reports	% of Reports			
Caucasian	21	56,603	65.8			
African American	19	14,947	17.4			
Hispanic	14	9,057	10.5			
Native American	14	772	0.9			
Asian/ Pac. Island	er 16	351	0.4			
Other	9	450	0.5			
Not Reported	9	3,865	4.5			
Total		86,045	100.0			

See Appendix A, Table 11, for state breakouts.

Number of states responding to this survey question: 24

Age of Victims

- Excluding self-neglect, what were the ages (in five year increments) of victims in the confirmed/validated reports in your total of substantiated reports indicated above? (15 respondents)
- For self-neglect cases only, what were the ages (in five year increments) of victims in the confirmed/validated reports in your total of substantiated reports indicated above? (7 respondents)
- Excluding self-neglect, what were the ages of victims in the confirmed/validated reports in your total of substantiated reports indicated above? (21 respondents)
- For self-neglect cases only, what were the ages of victims in the confirmed/validated reports in your total of substantiated reports indicated above? (14 respondents)

Using five year increments, 15 respondents provided information about victims of adult/elder abuse excluding self-neglect as well as self-neglect reports alone (Table 12). In substantiated reports excluding self-neglect, those adults 80 years of age and older (46.5%) suffered the greatest share of abuse. A third (33.6%) of the substantiated reports of self-neglect involved adults 80 years of age and older.

Table 12. Five Year Age Increments of Older Adult Victims in Substantiated Reports

	ALL REPORTS EXCEPT SELF-NEGLECT			REPORT	S OF SELF-	NEGLECT
Age	States Reporting	# of Reports	% of Reports	States Reporting	# of Reports	% Reports
85+	10	4,015	24.7	6	3,251	18.1
80-84	9	3,555	21.8	6	2,795	15.5
75-79	9	3,076	18.9	6	3,479	19.3
70-74	10	2,605	16.0	6	3,345	18.6
65-69	10	1,920	11.8	7	2,852	15.8
60-64	10	1,107	6.8	7	2,279	12.7
TOTAL		16,278	100.0		18,001	100.0

Number of states responding to this survey question: 15

Note: Reports may include multiple allegations.

Table 13 reflects information provided by 21 states whose tracking system did not permit them to report victim ages in fire year increments. The 60+ age category had the greatest percentage of both substantiated reports for all reports except self-neglect (71.0%) and reports of self-neglect (79.6%).

Table 13. Age Categories for Younger and Older Victims in Substantiated Reports

	ALL REPORTS EXCEPT SELF-NEGLECT			REPORT	S OF SELF-	NEGLECT
Age	States Reporting	# of Reports	% of Reports	States Reporting	# of Reports	% Reports
65+	4	2,814	11.7	2	2,735	16.6
60+	12	14,251	59.3	10	10,396	63.0
18-59	17	6,310	26.2	9	3,201	19.4
Other	5	662	2.8	2	159	1.0
TOTAL		24,037	100.0		16,491	100.0

Number of states responding to this survey question: 21 Note: Reports may include multiple allegations.

Reports/Investigations by Setting

- By setting, enter the number of reports or investigations that were tracked. (38 respondents)
- By setting, enter the number of reports or investigations that were substantiated. (24 respondents)

States were asked to provide, by setting, the number of reports or investigations that they tracked (Table 14). From data provided by 38 states, the majority (60.7%) of reports/investigations received involved domestic settings. Less than one in ten (8.3%) of reports received occurred in institutional settings, while 23.3% were categorized as "all settings."

Table 14. Settings of Reports/Investigations						
Setting	# of States	# of Reports/ Investigations	% of Reports/ Investigations			
Domestic	30	229,386	60.7			
Institutional	22	31,277	8.3			
Mental Health/						
Mental Retarda	ition 11	22,820	6.0			
All Settings	17	88,042	23.3			
Other	8	6,603	1.7			
Total		378,128	100.0			

Note: Multiple responses were given by several states. Number of states responding to this survey question: 38

States were also asked to provide, by setting, the number of substantiated reports or investigations (Table 15). From the data provided by 24 states, domestic settings were the most common (42.5%). The "all settings" category accounted for 42.1% of the settings, with institutional and mental health settings reported as 8.5% and 2.4% respectively. Other accounted for 1.7% of reports received and 4.5% of reports substantiated.

Table 15. Settings of Substantiated Reports/Investigations					
Setting	# of States	# of Reports/ Investigations	% of Reports/ Investigations		
Domestic	14	25,365	42.5		
Institutional	10	5,072	8.5		
MH/MR*	8	1,460	2.4		
All Settings	13	25,148	42.1		
Other	6	2,682	4.5		
Total		59,727	100.0		

Note: Multiple responses were given by several states. Number of states responding to this survey question: 24 *Mental Health/Mental Retardation

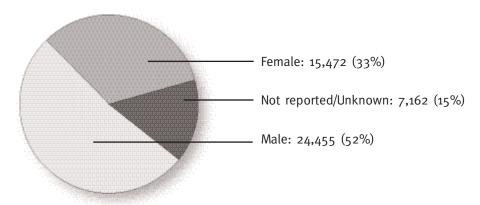
The Perpetrators in the Reports

Gender

• What are the genders of the perpetrators s in the substantiated/confirmed/validated reports related to your answer regarding total substantiated reports? (17 respondents)

Chart 5 displays the relationship between male, female, and unspecified gender for substantiated reports. States (17 respondents) identified and substantiated 24,455 (52.0%) male perpetrators and 15,472 (33.0%) female perpetrators. There were 7,162 (15.0%) perpetrators who were not reported or unknown.

Chart 6. Gender of Perpetrators in Substantiated Reports of Adult/Elder Abuse



Number of states responding to this survey question: 17

Age of Perpetrators

• What are the perpetrators' ages in the substantiated/confirmed/validated reports related to your answer regarding total substantiated reports? (10 respondents)

Ten states provided the age categories of perpetrators in substantiated reports (Table 16). The category with the greatest percentage of perpetrators was between 36 and 50 years of age (24.8%). Individuals ages 18-35 comprised the second largest group (18.5%), and those less than 18 made up the smallest category (5.9%). Perpetrator age was not reported in nearly one third (31.6%) of the reports.

Table 16. Age of Perpetrator in Substantiated Reports Age of # of % States Perpetrator Reporting **Perpetrators** <18 8 642 5.9 18-35 5 2,009 18.4 36-50 5 2,694 24.8 6 51-65 1,132 10.4 >65 6 966 8.9 Not Reported 7 3,439 31.6 **TOTAL** 10,882 100.0

See Appendix A, Table 16 for state breakouts. Number of states responding to this survey question: 10

Perpetrators' Relationship to Victims

• What are perpetrators' relationships to the victims in the substantiated/confirmed/validated reports related to your answer regarding total substantiated reports? (25 respondents)

Table 17 summarizes the relationship that perpetrators had with their victims as provided by information from 25 states. Family members (e.g., spouse, parents, children, grandchildren, siblings and other family members) accounted for 39,641 (61.7%) perpetrators in substantiated reports. The largest category, spouse/intimate partners, made up 19,449 (30.2%) of the reports. Adult children made up the second largest family group with 11,313 (17.6%). The "not known" and "other" categories made up 7,280 (11.3%) and 6,764 (10.5%), respectively. Facility and institution staff represented 2,861 (4.4%) of the perpetrators. Individuals categorized as "other" included former spouses, guardians, and caretakers.

Table 17. Perpetrators' Relationships to Victims in Substantiated Reports					
Relationship of Perpetrator	States Reporting	# of Perpetrators	% of Perpetrators		
Spouse/Intimate Partner	r 21	19,449	30.2		
Adult Child	21	11,313	17.6		

Relationship of Perpetrator	States Reporting	# of Perpetrators	% of Perpetrators
Not Known	19	7,280	11.3
Other	16	6,764	10.5
Service Provider	19	5,283	8.2
Other Family Member	21	4,735	7.4
Facility/Institution Staff	15	2,861	4.4
Friend/Neighbor	18	1,904	3.0
Grandchild	13	1,578	2.5
Parent	16	1,389	2.2
Sibling	18	1,177	1.8
Tenants	7	104	0.2
No Relationship/Strange	r 10	511	0.8
TOTAL		64,348	100.1

Number of states responding to this survey question: 25

Abuse Registry/Database

WITH INFORMATION FROM 49 STATES, twenty-one 21 states (38.9%) reported that they maintain an abuse registry/database, while 28 (51.9%) do not. Five (5) states (9.3%) did not indicate whether or not they maintain such a database.

Service Delivery and Outcomes

Length of Open Case

• Counting from the beginning (that is, from the point the case entered your system) of a case to its closure, what was the average length of time an elder/adult protective case was open in your program during the report year? (22 respondents)

Twenty-two (22) states provided information on the average length of time an elder/adult protective case was open, from the time it was entered into the system until its closure. Responses ranged from 5 days to 216 days, with the average length of time as 80.5 days.

Refusal of Services

• In how many and in what percent of investigations did clients refuse services? (23 respondents)

With 23 states responding, clients refused APS services in a total of 20,540 investigations, for an average of 11.0%. Responses ranged from 0.0% to 35.0% of services refused.

Court Interventions or Legal Actions

• In how many and what percent of cases were court interventions or legal actions by APS used to protect victims/clients? (24 respondents)

With 24 states responding, court interventions or legal actions were initiated by APS to protect clients in 10,327 cases, for an average of 7.0%, with responses ranging from 1.0% to 18.0%.

Case Closure

• Which of the reasons for case closure were documented in your program's elder/adult protective system? (47 respondents)

State elder/protective programs provided categories as options for case closure (Table 18). Forty-seven (47) respondents indicated that the most common categories included in closure options were death or an individual refusing further services (40 states), followed by no longer being in need of protective services (39 states), and moving out of the service area (36 states). In lieu of documenting categories of case closure, 15 states (27.8%) indicated other ways of measuring elder/adult protective program outcomes, which included letters of complaint and appreciation, recidivism rates, and field office reviews.

Table 18. Categories as Options for Case Closure					
OPTIONS FOR CASE CLOSURE	# OF STATES USING CATEGORIES	% OF STATES USING CATEGORIES			
Died	40	74.1			
Refused further services	40	74.1			
No longer in need of protective services	39	72.2			
Moved out of service area	36	66.7			
Entered long term care facility	35	64.8			

OPTIONS FOR CASE CLOSURE	# OF STATES USING CATEGORIES	% OF STATES USING CATEGORIES
Risk of harm significar reduced	ntly 34	63.0
Problem solved	33	61.1
Other	15	27.8
Note: Multiple respons Number of states respo	res anding to this survey questio	on: 47

Funding and Administration

Total APS Program Expenditures

• What was your APS program's total expenditure during the reporting year? (30 respondents)

With 30 states responding, the average total expenditure per state for an APS program was \$7,084,358. Most of these programs, served vulnerable younger adults and elderly victims of abuse, exploitation and neglect. Expenditures ranged from \$30,000 to \$41,094,904 depending on the size of the state and the organization of the program. The median response for the reporting states was \$2,129,244. For 15 states (see Appendix A) with programs covering individuals aged 60 and over and providing budget information, the approximate, average per capita APS expenditure was \$10.90, based on the population of individuals in those states aged 65+ (U.S. Census, 2000). Expenditures ranged from .52 to \$87.00 per person.

Sources of Federal Funding

• Please specify the sources of funding for your APS program and the amounts in each.

Social Services Block Grant (13 respondents)

Older Americans Act (12 respondents)

State/ local (29 respondents)

Private grants/donations (o respondents)

Thirteen (13) states reported receiving an average of \$2,987,648 from the Social Services Block Grant. Amounts ranged from \$98,569 to \$9,513,337. Thirty-nine states (39) did not indicate if funds from the Social Services Block Grant were available.

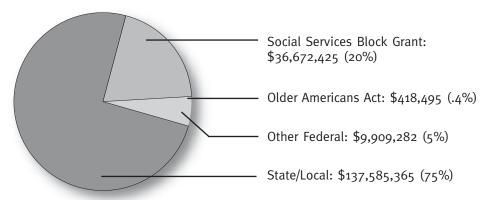
The Older Americans Act (OAA) provided an average of \$59,785 in fund-

ing for seven states, ranging from \$11,830 to \$179,745. Five (5) states reported receiving no OAA funding, and forty-two did not respond to this question. Four (4) states reported funding from other federal sources averaging \$2,863,621; their funding ranged from \$1,545,200 to \$5,252,278.

Sources of Funding From State/Local and Private Grants/Donations

TWENTY-FIVE (25) STATES INDICATED receiving money from state and local funding sources. The average amount received from state and local sources was \$4,607,112. Responses ranged from \$10,000 to \$54,649,000. Four (4) states reported receiving no funding from state and local sources. Four (4) states indicated receiving no funding from other sources, with the remaining 46 states not responding. No states reported funding from private grants or organizations. A breakdown of funding sources for states is provided in Chart 6. A complete breakout of state budgets explaining Chart 6 is located in the Appendix.

Chart 7: Sources of APS Funding



CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

THE FINDINGS FROM THIS STUDY lead to a number of conclusions, which give rise to recommendations for policy makers.

Statutory and Program Information

Conclusions:

Traditionally, the term "elder abuse" has been used to define a problem affecting a specific population—persons age 60 or 65 and older. This terminology has narrowed the field of inquiry in terms of research, and has more often than not excluded younger vulnerable adults from national data collection efforts.

It is evident from the data that the preponderance of state APS statutes and programs serve younger vulnerable adults as well as elderly victims of abuse. The majority of these programs are housed in human services agencies and separate from the SUA.

Recommendations:

Because most state statutes and programs include vulnerable adults ages 18 to 59, and many programs serving these victims are not part of the Aging Network, national data collection, research, and funding need to be broad based and inclusive of the younger victim population.

Investigatory Authority

Conclusions:

Although APS programs always serve victims who live in their homes or with friends and/or family members (domestic settings), the majority of APS programs also conduct investigations in institutional settings as well as in mental health/mental retardation settings. This situation may lead to role confusion and territorial disputes between the many professionals involved in investigations of abuse which occurs in facilities.

Recommendations:

A national study should be conducted to gain more information about this issue. The study should include recommendations regarding roles, responsibilities, and possible additional funding streams for both APS and the Long Term Care Ombudsman programs when institutional abuse investigations are required.

Reporters of Elder/Adult Abuse

Conclusions:

The majority of the states named health care professionals such as licensed and registered nurses, physicians and nurse aides as mandated reporters, yet the study revealed that the most frequent reporters were family members, health care professionals, and social service agency staff. This was true in spite of the fact that many states have criminal penalties for failure to report.

Recommendations:

Most states have mandatory reporting provisions for a wide range of professionals in their laws. However, much more education needs to be done for physicians, law enforcement professionals, members of the Aging Network, clergy, employees of financial institutions and others who have frequent contact with victims but are currently not reporting. Criminal prosecution for failure to report is time consuming and expensive and often of little benefit to victims. A much more effective approach would be to make sure that all professionals who are named as mandatory reporters know how to identify potential abusive situations and where and how to make appropriate reports.

Total Number of Reports Received

Conclusions:

The 2000 study reported that, for the most recent year that data were available, APS received 472,813 reports of elder/adult abuse in both domestic and institutional settings. In the 1986 study, when data were first collected by NARCEA, APS received 117,000 reports of domestic elder abuse.

Recommendations:

Currently, many states face severe budget shortfalls resulting in drastic program reductions. Given the demographic growth of both the aging and disabled younger adult populations, states should be encouraged not to

reduce protective services to vulnerable adult and elderly abuse victims. Short-term reductions in services to these populations will result in greater expenses for medical and long term care as well as increased victim mortality (Lachs, 1998).

Total Number of Cases Investigated/Substantiated

Conclusions:

According to 49 respondents, 84% of the reports received by APS programs were investigated. Fewer states (42) were able to provide their substantiation rates, while even fewer (29) could provide information on the age of victims. The lack of information on the age of substantiated victims points to a need for better data management systems at the state and local level.

Recommendations:

States are being responsive to reports of elder/adult abuse, but the overall substantiation rate of 48.5% is low. This could be the result of uneducated reporters or fuzzy definitions of "substantiated." This is an area that would benefit from additional research. Standard national definitions of terms, improved state data management systems, and regular national data collection are all needed to provide a more accurate picture of the problem.

Allegations Substantiated by Category

Conclusions:

States reported that the most frequently occurring substantiated allegation of maltreatment involved self-neglect. This finding supports anecdotal information provided by APS workers for many years (Duke, 1991).

Recommendations:

Self-neglect continues to be a largely unrecognized problem that researchers have tended to avoid (Bonnie & Wallace, 2002). There is a great need for additional research into the causes of self-neglect, the most appropriate treatment modalities, and the most effective prevention programs.

The Victims in the Reports

Conclusions:

Consistent with other studies, Caucasian women over the age of 80 were the most frequent victims of abuse that excluded self-neglect. In contrast, fewer 80-year-old women were self-neglecting. In general, persons 60+

were the victims in approximately 60% of reports excluding neglect and 63% in self-neglect cases.

Recommendations:

As previously suggested, self-neglect continues to be a primary cause for APS reports. It appears from the data that persons age 60 to 80 are more likely to be self-neglecting. More research needs to be conducted to help professionals identify and report self-neglect earlier, in order that prompt intervention can prevent further deterioration of victims and their living conditions. More information is needed by APS workers on the most appropriate interventions in these cases. And more research needs to be done on the reasons that persons 80+ are more likely to be physically abused or neglected by caregivers. Again, increased information in this area could result in more effective intervention and prevention.

Reports/Investigations by Settings

Conclusions:

The majority of APS programs have authority to investigate in both domestic and institutional settings; however, it appears from the 38 respondents who provided data that only 8.3% of the reports occurred in institutional setting, although an additional 23.3% of reports were not tracked by specific settings. It may be that APS is not be receiving some reports of institutional abuse for which they have a programmatic responsibility to investigate. The lack of data makes this issue difficult to interpret.

Recommendations:

As stated earlier, more information is needed on the role of APS in institutional and mental health/retardation settings. This is an area that will require more research.

The Perpetrators in the Reports

Conclusions:

As reflected in previous studies, the primary perpetrators were men age 36-50, and family members, particularly spouses and adult children. This finding reinforces the now more widely accepted concept that a significant percentage of elder/adult abuse cases are related to domestic violence.

Recommendations:

This finding strongly supports the need for additional research and cross training for APS and domestic violence professionals.

Abuse/Registry Database

Conclusions:

The study found that more than half the states do not maintain a central abuse registry.

Recommendations:

Further research is needed to determine the pros and cons of maintaining central abuse registries.

Service Delivery and Outcomes

Conclusions:

The study supports earlier findings that only a few clients (11%) actually refused APS services that were offered to them during the course of investigations. In even fewer cases (7%), APS initiated court interventions or legal actions (Duke, 1997). These findings should help to finally lay to rest the assumption that APS acts inappropriately to restrict victims' right to self-determination.

Recommendation:

This information should be emphasized in all elder abuse public awareness initiatives, since there appears to be a perception by victims that APS intervention results in inappropriate institutional placement.

Funding and Administration

Conclusions:

A study conducted by NAAPSA in 1993 showed that 32 reporting states had an average expenditure of \$4,402,289 for APS program (American Public Welfare Association, 1994). The average expenditure per state in this more recent study has increased by 61% or \$2,682,069. Since 1993, the number of states reporting receiving funds from the Social Services Block Grant has decreased from 20 to 13. The average state and local funding for the program has increased by 20% since 1993.

Recommendations:

It is apparent that the funding from the Social Services Block Grant for APS services has not kept up with inflation or the growth in caseloads, which has caused states to use more of their general funds. More research is needed to determine the funding level necessary to provide adequate, appropriate APS services.

Conclusion

Since 1983, professionals with an interest in elder and vulnerable adult abuse have collected information from the states in an attempt to gain a national perspective on the issue. Data from the most recent *National* 2000 *Survey of States* parallel many of the findings from earlier efforts and reinforce the need for better data management systems, research, training, and public awareness efforts in the area of elder and vulnerable adult abuse.

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Appendix A: State Data Breakouts for Tables and Charts

Chart 1: APS States with Protective Services Statutes and/or Protective Services Programs

ELDER ONLY	ADULT ONLY	YOUNGER & ELDER ADULTS	NO ANSWER
Connecticut	Alaska	Alabama	Washington
Illinois	Arkansas	Arizona	
Massachusetts	District of Columbia	California	
Montana	Idaho	Colorado	
Nevada	Indiana	Delaware	
Pennsylvania	Nebraska	Florida	
Rhode Island	New York	Georgia	
Wisconsin	Ohio	Guam	
		Hawaii	
		Iowa	
		Kansas	
		Kentucky	
		Louisiana1	
		Louisiana2	
		Maryland	
		Maine	
		Michigan	
		Minnesota	
		Missouri	
		Mississippi	
		North Carolina	
		North Dakota	
		New Hampshire	

ELDER ONLY	ADULT ONLY	YOUNGER & ELDER ADULTS	NO ANSWER
		New Jersey	
		New Mexico	
		Oklahoma	
		Oregon1	
		Oregon2	
		South Carolina	
		South Dakota	
		Tennessee	
		Texas	
		Utah	
		Vermont	
		Virginia	
		West Virginia	

Wyoming

Chart 1: Structure of the State Administrative Agency for Elder/Adult Protective Services

APS is in the human service agency, SUA is in a different agency	APS is in the SUA, which is within the human service agency	APS is in the SUA, which is an independent agency	APS is in the human service agency, SUA is in the same agency, but separate from APS	APS is in othe
Alabama	Arizona	Alaska	Arizona	Kansas
California	Colorado	Idaho	District of Columbia	Michigan
Florida	Connecticut	Illinois	Kentucky	Texas
Georgia	Delaware	Louisiana1	Minnesota	
Hawaii	Guam	Rhode Island	Montana	
owa	Indiana		Nebraska	
Louisiana2	Maine		New Hampshire	
Maryland	Massachusetts		New Jersey	
Mississippi	Missouri		Oregon1	
New Mexico	Nevada		Oregon2	
New York	North Dakota			
North Carolina	Oklahoma			
Ohio	Pennsylvania			
South Carolina	South Dakota			
Tennessee	Utah			
/irginia	Vermont			
Washington	Wisconsin			
West Virginia				
Wyoming				

Table 2: Populations Served Under Elder/Adult Protective Statute

ADULTS 60+	ADULTS 65+	VULNERABLE/ IMPAIRED ADULTS 60+	VULNERABLE/ IMPAIRED ADULTS 65+	VULNERABLE/ DISABLED ADULTS 18=65	VULNERABLE/ DISABLED ADULTS, ALL AGES	OTHER
Arkansas Connecticut Delaware Guam	Arkansas California Delaware Georgia	Arkansas Kansas New Mexico Rhode Island	Arkansas Kansas New Mexico Rhode Island	Arkansas California District of Columbia Georgia	Alaska Alabama Arkansas Arizona	Kentucky Montana Oregon1 Washington
Illinois Kansas Louisiana1 Louisiana2 Massachusetts Missouri Montana Nevada New Mexico Ohio	Kansas New Mexico Oregon2 Rhode Island Texas Utah Virginia	Tennessee Virginia Washington West Virginia	Tennessee Virginia Washington West Virginia	Guam Idaho Kansas Louisiana1 Louisiana2 Michigan Missouri Mississippi Montana New Mexico	Colorado Delaware Florida Georgia Guam Hawaii Indiana Iowa Kansas Maine	
Pennsylvania Rhode Island				North Dakota Oregon2	Maryland Minnesota	

ADULTS 60+	ADULTS 65+	VULNERABLE/ IMPAIRED ADULTS 60+	VULNERABLE/ IMPAIRED ADULTS 65+	VULNERABLE/ DISABLED ADULTS 18=65	VULNERABLE/ DISABLED ADULTS, ALL AGES	OTHER
Vermont				Tennessee	Nebraska	
Virginia				Texas	New Hampshire	
Wisconsin				Vermont	New Jersey	
				Virginia	New Mexico	
				West Virginia	New York	
					North Carolina	
					Oklahoma	
					Oregon1	
					Oregon2	
					South Carolina	
					South Dakota	
					Tennessee	
					Utah	
					Virginia	
					Washington	
					West Virginia	
					Wyoming	

Table 3: Scope of Investigatory Authority:

ALL SETTINGS	DOMESTIC SETTINGS	INSTITUTIONAL SETTINGS	MENTAL HEALTH/ MENTAL RETARDATION SETTINGS	OTHER
Alaska	All Respondents	Alabama	Alabama	Alaska
Arizona	indicated domestic	Alaska	Alaska	Arizona
Colorado	settings	Arizona	Arizona	Colorado
District of Columbia		Colorado	Arkansas	Connecticut
Florida		District of Columbia	Colorado	District of Columbia
Guam		Florida	District of Columbia	Florida
Hawaii		Guam	Florida	Georgia
Idaho		Hawaii	Guam	Guam
Indiana		lowa	Hawaii	Hawaii
Iowa		Idaho	Idaho	Idaho
Kansas		Indiana	Indiana	Indiana
Kentucky		Kansas	lowa	lowa
Maryland		Kentucky	Kansas	Kansas
Minnesota		Louisiana1	Kentucky	Kentucky
Missouri		Louisiana2	Maryland	Louisiana1
Montana		Maine	Minnesota	Louisiana2
North Carolina		Maryland	Missouri	Maine

ALL SETTINGS	DOMESTIC SETTINGS	INSTITUTIONAL SETTINGS	MENTAL HEALTH/ MENTAL RETARDATION SETTINGS	OTHER
Nebraska		Minnesota	Montana	Maryland
New Hampshire		Missouri	Nebraska	Minnesota
New Mexico		Montana	Nevada	Missouri
Nevada		Nebraska	New Hampshire	Montana
Oregon1		Nevada	New Mexico	Nebraska
Pennsylvania		New Hampshire	North Carolina	Nevada
Rhode Island		New Mexico	Oklahoma	New Hampshire
South Dakota		North Carolina	Oregon1	New Mexico
Tennessee		Oklahoma	Pennsylvania	North Carolina
Utah		Oregon1	Rhode Island	Oklahoma
Virginia		Oregon2	South Dakota	Oregon1
Vermont		Pennsylvania	Tennessee	Pennsylvania
West Virginia		Rhode Island	Texas	Rhode Island
Wyoming		South Dakota	Utah	South Dakota
		Tennessee	Vermont	Tennessee
		Utah	Virginia	Utah
		Vermont	West Virginia	Vermont
		Virginia	Wyoming	Virginia
		West Virginia		West Virginia
		Wyoming		Wyoming

Table 4: Reporters of Adult/Elder Abuse

LICENSED NURSES:

Mandated: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, KS, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NV, OH, OK, OR1, OR2, SC, TN, VA, VT, WA, WV

Encouraged: AL, CO, DE, ND, NJ, WI

PHYSICIANS:

Mandated: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, KS, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MT, NE, NV, OH, OK, OR1, OR2, SC, TN, VA, VT, WA, WV

Encouraged: CO, DE, ND, NJ, WI

HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS:

Mandated: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NV, OH, OK, OR1, OR2, SC, VA, VT, WA, WV Encouraged: AL, CO, DE, ND, NJ, WI

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS:

Mandated: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, KS, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NV, OH, OK, OR1, OR2, SC, VA, VT, WA, WV Encouraged: CO, DC, DE, MA, NJ, WI

PSYCHOLOGISTS:

Mandated: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, KS, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NV, OH, OK, OR1, OR2, SC, VA, VT, WA, WV Encouraged: AL, CO, DE, ND, NJ, WI

SOCIAL WORKERS:

Mandated: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, KS, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NV, OH, OK, OR1, OR2, TN, VA, VT, WA, WV Encouraged: AL, CO, DE, ND, NJ, WI

HOME HEALTH PERSONNEL:

Mandated: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NV, OH, OK, OR1, OR2, SC, VA, VT, WA, WV Encouraged: AL, CO, DC, DE, ND, NJ, WI

REGISTERED NURSES:

Mandated: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NV, OH, OK, OR1, OR2, SC, TN, VA, VT, WA, WV Encouraged: AL, CO, DE, ND, NJ, WI

DENTISTS:

Mandated: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, KS, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NV, OH, OK, SC, VA, VT, WA, WV Encouraged: CO, DE, ND, NJ, WI

NURSING HOME STAFF:

Mandatory: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NV, OH, OK, OR1, OR2, SC, TN, VA, VT, WA, WV *Encouraged:* AL, CO, DC, DE, MA, ND, NJ, WI

MENTAL HEALTH WORKERS:

Mandatory: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NV, OH, OK, OR1, OR2, SC, VA, VT, WA, WV *Encouraged:* AL, CO, DC, DE, MA, ND, NJ, WI

NURSES AIDES:

Mandated: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NV, OH, OK, OR1, OR2, SC, VA, VT, WA, WV Encouraged: AL, CO, DC, DE, MA, ND, NJ, WI

HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY PERSONNEL:

Mandated: AD, AL, AR, CA, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, MD, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NV, OH, OK, OR1, OR2, SC, TN, VA, WA, WV Encouraged: AZ, CO, CT, DE, MA, ME, ND, WI

PHARMACIST:

Mandated: AK, AR, CA, CT, DC, GA, HI, ID, IL, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NV, OK, SC, VA, WA, WV Encouraged: AL, AZ, CO, DE, IA, MA, MD, ND, NJ, OH, VT, WI

LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN:

Mandated: AK, AL, AR, CA, CT, DC, HI, IA, ID, IL, LA1, LA2, MD, MI, MT, NE, NV, OH, OR2, VA, WV Encouraged: AZ, CO, DE, MA, ME, MN, MO, ND, NJ, VT, WI

CORONERS:

Mandated: AR, CA, CT, GA, HI, ID, IL, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MT, NV, OH, OK, SC, TN, VT, WA

Encouraged: AK, AL, AZ, CO, DC, DE, IA, MI, ND, NE, NJ, WI, WV

AREA AGENCIES ON AGING:

Mandated: A, AR, CA, CT, GA, IA, ID, IL, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NV, OH, OR2, VA, VT, WA

Encouraged: AL, AZ, CO, DC, HI, MA, ME, ND, NJ, WI, WV

EMT/FIREFIGHTERS:

Mandated: AK, CA, GA, HI, IA, IL, MA, MEMN, MO, MT, NE, NV, OH, OK, VT, WA, WV

Encouraged: AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DC, DE, ID, MD, MI, ND, NJ, WI

ANY PERSON:

Mandated: FL, GU, IN, KY, LA1, LA2, MO, MS, NC, NH, NM, OK, RI, TN, TX, UT

Encouraged: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, KS, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NJ, NV, NY, OH, PA, SC, VT, WA, WI, WV

OTHER:

Mandated: AL, CA, CT, GA, IL, KS, MA, ME, MS, NE, NV, OR1, OR2, TN, WV, WY

Encouraged: CO, MD, MI, MN, MT, ND, NJ, VT, WI

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES:

Mandated: CA, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, MT, OR1, OR2, VA, WA Encouraged: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE, NJ, NV, OH, VT, WI, WV

ATTORNEYS:

Mandated: AZ, CA, IA, NE, NV, OH, OR1, OR2 Encouraged: AK, AL, AR, CT, DC, DE, ID, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NJ, VT, WA, WI, WV

CLERGY:

Mandated: AK, CT, MO, NV, OH, OR1, OR2

Encouraged: AL, AR, AZ CA, DC, DE, HI, IA, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MT, ND, NE, NJ, VT, WA, WI, WV

PUBLIC OFFICIALS:

Mandated: HI, MT, OR1, OR2 Encouraged: AK, AL, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, IA, ID, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE, NJ, NV, OH, VT, WI, WV

BANKERS:

Mandated: AZ, GA

Encouraged: AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, IA, ID, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NJ, NV, VT, WA, WA, WV

ANIMAL CONTROL:

Mandated: KY, MD

Encouraged: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, IL MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NJ, NV, OH, VT, WI, WV

FAMILY MEMBERS:

Mandated: OR2

Encouraged: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, ID, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NJ, NV, OH, VT, WA, WI, WV

SELF/VICTIM:

Mandated: MD

Encouraged: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, ID, IL, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NJ, NV, OH, VT, WI, WV

FRIENDS/NEIGHBORS:

Mandated:

Encouraged: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, ID, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NJ, NV, OH, VT, WA, WI, WV

Chart 2: Penalty for Failure to Report Adult/Elder Abuse

MISDEMEANOR, NO FINE	MISDEMEANOR, POSSIBLE FINE	MISDEMEANOR, POSSIBLE FINE, POSSIBLE JAIL SENTENCE	MISDEMEANOR, POSSIBLE FINE, REPORT TO PROFESSIONAL LICENSING BOARD	OTHER
Arizona	Arizona	Alabama	Maine	Indiana
Hawaii	Connecticut	Alaska	Michigan	Massachusetts
Kansas	District of Columbia	California	South Carolina	Washington
Nevada	Guam	Florida		
New Hampshire	Idaho	Georgia		
New Mexico	lowa	Kentucky		
Oklahoma	Maryland	Louisiana1		
Oregon2	Louisiana2			
Pennsylvania	Minnesota			
Virginia	Mississippi			
	Missouri			
	Montana			
	Nebraska			
	Rhode Island			
	Tennessee			
	Texas			
	Utah			
	Vermont			
	West Virginia			

Table 5: Time Frame for Emergency Reports

IMMEDIATELY	1 HOUR	2 HOURS	3 HOURS	5 HOURS	24 HOURS	48 HOURS
California	lowa	Florida	New Mexico	Massachusetts	Arkansas	Arizona
Georgia		Idaho			Colorado	Mississippi
Indiana					Delaware	
Minnesota					District of Colu	mbia
North Carolina					Guam	
North Dakota					Illinois	
New Hampshire					Kansas	
New Jersey					Louisiana2	
Oklahoma					Maryland	
Oregon1					Missouri	
Pennsylvania					Nevada	
South Carolina					New York	
Wyoming					Ohio	
					Rhode Island	
					South Dakota	
					Tennessee	
					Texas	
					Utah	
					Virginia	
					Washington	

Table 6: Maximum Investigation Length Policy

NO POLICY	10 DAYS	14 DAYS	30 DAYS	45 DAYS	60 DAYS	90 DAYS	120 DAYS
Arizona	lowa	Michigan	Georgia	Louisiana1	Florida	Missouri	Washington
Arkansas	Mississippi		Guam	New Hampshire	Hawaii	Vermont	
California			Illinois	Oregon1	Louisiana2		
Colorado			Kentucky	Virginia	New York		
Connecticut			Maryland		Oregon2		
Deleware			Massachusetts		Tennessee		
District of Col	umbia		Nebraska		Utah		
Idaho			New Jersey		Wyoming		
Indiana			New Mexico				
Minnesota			North Carolina				
Nevada			Oklahoma				
North Dakota			Pennsylvania				
Ohio			South Carolina				
Rhode Island			South Dakota				
Wisconsin							

Table 10: Types of Substantiated Allegations of Maltreatment

STATE	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	CARE-GIVER NEGLECT	SELF- NEGLECT	FINANCIAL ABUSE	OTHER
Alaska	66	15	54	341	185	100	
Arkansas	23	8	2	57	138	32	
California	15,582	337	3,331	280	3,701	4,626	
Colorado	596	77	0	664	2,055	528	628
Connecticut	239	2	260	707	1,231	167	
Florida	1,388	121	871	5,009	6,362	1,371	
Guam	3	2		1		1	
Hawaii	66	5	38	81	62	22	
Illinois	771	19	1,920	1,421		1,935	92
Indiana	1,398	260	13	2,713	3,331	1,050	
Iowa	22	4		71	95	56	
Kansas	81	10				100	
Kentucky	6,598			567	1,261	223	8,562
Louisiana1	170	3	128	551	631	258	8
Louisiana2	69	21	63	117	154	52	
Maine	32	5	36	97	386	54	
Massachusetts	582	27	612	647		318	2
Michigan	534				2,495	356	
Minnesota	80			313			

STATE	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	CARE-GIVER NEGLECT	SELF- NEGLECT	FINANCIAL ABUSE	OTHER
Mississippi	37	6	7	107	86	15	
Missouri	1,155		1,184			402	
Nebraska	92	14	53		728	165	483
New Hampshire	50	7	73		451	24	68
New Jersey	431	3	268	635	1,365	390	
New Mexico	206	11			1,122	132	
Nevada	412			325	402	307	8
North Carolina	126			630	1,198	147	
Oklahoma	562	84		1,089	4,796	868	
Oregon1	73	22	77	172		67	46
Oregon2	293	28	473	1,234	1,244	449	309
Rhode Island	250	9	656	330	928	302	
South Dakota	67	13	46	66	149	45	26
Tennessee	357	71	357	713	2,460	285	71
Texas	1,453	71	2,724	3,488	32,897	1,342	6
Utah	89	18	59	59	327	74	
Vermont	21	7	4	5		22	
Wisconsin	281	8	380		967	392	1
Wyoming	6			10	9	2	3

Table 11: Race/Ethnicity of Victims

STATE	AFRICAN- AMERICAN	A SIAN/PAC ISLANDER	CAUCASIAN	HISPANIC	NATIVE AMERICAN	NOT REPORTED	OTHER
Alaska	23	8	197		166		
Arizona	55	3	198	3			
Colorado	318		3,547	591			92
Connecticut	322	10	3,561	166	3		
Florida			532				172
Guam		7					3
Hawaii	3	104	93			13	
Illinois	801	15	2,882	59	8	2	11
Iowa	9	1	234			6	
Louisiana1	735		962				52
Louisiana2	206	2	184		3	2	
Maine	2	0	723	1	1		
Nebraska	122	4	908	24	17	59	
Nevada						3,029	
New Hampshire	е					673	
New Jersey	278	9	2,662	137			6
North Carolina	756		1218	84	42		

STATE	AFRICAN- AMERICAN	ASIAN/PAC ISLANDER	CAUCASIAN	HISPANIC	NATIVE AMERICAN	NOT REPORTED	OTHER
Ohio	1,953	21	10,194	73	11		116
Oklahoma	675	74	6,219	74	450		
Tennessee	784		2,709			71	
Texas	7,814	87	17,552	7,808	48		
Utah	4	3	539	23	8		1
Wisconsin	86	3	1,465	14	15	10	
Wyoming			24				

 Table 16: Age of perpetrators in substantiated reports

STATE	<18	18-35	36-50	51-65	>65	NOT REPORTED
Connecticut	21					
Florida	53	208	253	98	37	
Hawaii						53
Illinois	106	994	1,832	773	739	434
lowa	2			6	16	16
Kentucky						1,468
Nevada						1,454
Ohio	0					
Texas	400	655	371	112	8	0
Utah	7					
Vermont		18	8	3	0	14
Wisconsin	53	134	230	140	166	

Budget Information as Reported by States (Refer to Chart 7)

STATE	APS TOTAL EXPENDITURE	STATE/LOCAL FUNDING	SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	OLDER AMERICANS ACT	PRIVATE GRANTS/ DONATIONS	OTHER FEDERAL FUNDING
Arkansas	1,042,659					
Arizona	4,500,000		1,600,000			
California	21,799,009	726,000,000				
Colorado	1,400,000					
Connecticut	41,094,904	1,030,489	444,231	64,415		
Delaware	30,000	10,000		20,000		
Florida	25,427,768	1,747,3195	5,257,373			2,697,200
Georgia	16,000,000					
Hawaii	721,073	721,073				
Idaho	1,200,000					
Illinois	5,531,168	535,1423		179,745		
Indiana	856,569	758,000	98,569			
Kansas	183,850	37,291				
Kentucky	16,933,285	11,896,328				
Louisiana	1,789,626	1,789,626				
Louisiana	902,405	902,405				

STATE	APS TOTAL EXPENDITURE	STATE/LOCAL FUNDING	SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	OLDER AMERICANS ACT	PRIVATE GRANTS/ DONATIONS	OTHER FEDERAL FUNDING
Maine	3,800,000	3,800,000				
Mississippi	318,646	318,646				
Nevada	630,000		630,000			
New Mexico	2,468,861	2,234,899				
Oregon	4,454,098	2,494,294				1,959,804
Oregon	6,786,011	3,460,866				
Pennsylvania	7,562,416	7,562,416				
South Carolina	10,321,959	2,324,548	2,745,133			5,252,278
South Dakota	3,442,530		3,381,625	60,905		
Tennessee	4,399,900	687,700	2,167,000			1,545,200
Texas	30,895,706	8,170,258	9,513,337			
Vermont	399,000					
Washington, DC	1,594,000		1,594,000			
Wyoming	53,999	53,999				

Per Capita APS Spending figure calculated using

Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana (combined budged from both agencies), Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon (combined budged from both agencies), Pennsylvania, Texas, Vermont, and Guam.